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# ARAB TIMES

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NO. 7810 TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 1990/SHA'ABAN 9, 1410 AH 20 PAGES 150 FILLS

## GCC will try to block Jewish influx

RIYADH, March 5, (AP): Foreign ministers of the six-state Gulf Co-operation Council pledged today to help the Arab League block the threat of large-scale Soviet Jewish emigration to Israel.

"The GCC states will exert every possible effort within the framework of Arab efforts to confront this emigration," Oman's minister, Yusuf Bin Alawi, told a news conference.

Alawi and the ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates were concluding a two-day conference at the GCC's Riyadh headquarters to formulate a common policy on Arab issues, especially Jordan's call for an emergency Arab summit on the expected flood of Soviet Jews to Israel.

Alawi said in his opening address to the conference yesterday that the Jewish influx has "sent shockwaves through the Arab world, not only because of the complications such immigration will add to the faltering efforts for peace, but because of the real danger it represents to Arab national security."

The GCC ministers have also discussed strengthening UN efforts to negotiate a peace treaty between Iran and Iraq in formally ended their 1980-88 war.

**Judaizing Jerusalem**  
OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 5, (Reuters): Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has called for settling as many Soviet Jewish immigrants as possible in Jerusalem — east and west — in defiance of Israel's closest ally, the United States.

His remarks to reporters, broadcast by Israel Radio today, followed President George Bush's demand for a halt to settlement of Jews in the eastern, Arab part of the city seized by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war.

## Premier favours elected assembly

'Government to be accountable to Parliament'

KUWAIT, March 5, (Agencies): HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah has declared full support for an elected Parliament, but insists on firm guarantees for healthy co-operation between the legislature and the executive, according to a report published yesterday. Another report said the return of Parliament is imminent.

"The existence of an assembly is in the interest of the government. It would even be injurious for us not to have a Parliament," a daily quoted Sheikh Saad,

as saying.

The report indicated that a formula was taking shape to bring back the Assembly. The daily said that the remarks came during a weekend meeting with 28 former deputies campaigning for the restoration of the 50-member elected Assembly, dissolved since 1986.

"I am for an elected Assembly that not only acts as a watchdog, but to which (the government) will be accountable as well," Sheikh Saad was quoted as telling the former deputies during a dinner. It was the second such meeting in three weeks as part of a nation-wide dialogue that the Crown Prince initiated in early February.



### Lenin hanged

Demolition workers in Bucharest yesterday finally succeeded in pulling down a 10-metre (30-foot) statue of Lenin in Bucharest which had resisted all efforts to budge it over the weekend.

But after more work to detach it from its red granite plinth, cranes swung it free yesterday as a crowd of several hundred clapped and cheered.

The bronze statue is seen hanging from a steel cable.

Workers detach (inset) the steel cable used to lower the statue. (Reuters wirephoto)

### NEWSWATCH

**Withdrawing**  
A Soviet army officer guides tanks being unloaded from a train platform in Czechoslovakia on Sunday as the first convoy of 40 tanks returns to base in this Russian federation town after withdrawing from Czechoslovakia last week. (Reuters wirephoto)

### Warsaw meet

PRAGUE, March 5, (Reuters): Warsaw Pact foreign ministers have been invited to meet Prague on March 17 to discuss European security, Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier said today.

He held a news conference that Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze had reacted "with interest" to his proposal made during a visit to Moscow last week.

### Hostages talks

WASHINGTON, March 5, (AP): The White House said today there are no grounds for expecting an imminent release of the US hostages in Lebanon but said many people outside the US government are involved in talks in Beirut for their freedom.

### Beirut peaceful

BEIRUT, March 5, (Reuters): Lebanon's Christians enjoyed their most peaceful day in a month of war as negotiators worked to bring an end to the fighting.

### PLO-Israel talks

ABU DHABI, March 5, (AP): Senior aide to PLO chief Yasser Arafat says the first dialogue between PLO and Israel will start this week.

### Iran cosmonaut

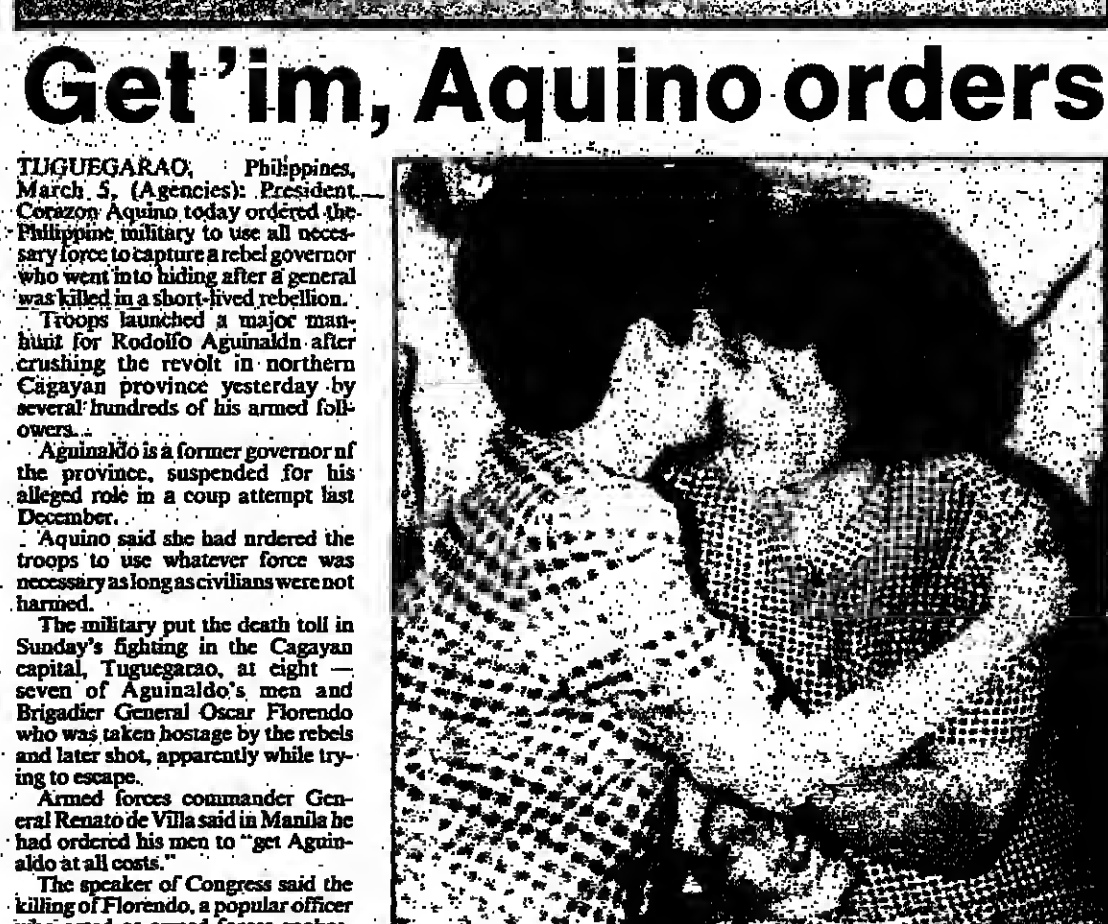
NICOSIA, March 5, (AP): Iran said today it was planning to send a man into space on a Soviet spacecraft.

### Weather

UNSTABLE weather with moderate southeasterly wind, may freshen at times and slight chance for scattered rain.

State of sea: Slight to moderate High water: 9.00 am, 6.00 pm Low water: 1.00 am, 1.00 pm Sunrise: 6.08 am Sunset: 5.51 pm Maximum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 27°C 81°F Abudhabi: 24°C 75°F Bahrain: 24°C 75°F Minimum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 9°C 48°F Abudhabi: 14°C 57°F Bahrain: 14°C 57°F Maximum temperatures expected: Kuwait: 27°C 81°F Abudhabi: 24°C 75°F Bahrain: 24°C 75°F Minimum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 70 percent Abudhabi: 72 percent Bahrain: 68 percent

### Get 'im, Aquino orders



TUGUEGARAO, Philippines, March 5, (Agencies): President Corason Aquino today ordered the Philippine military to use all necessary force to capture a rebel governor who went into hiding after a general was killed in a short-lived rebellion.

Troops launched a major man-hunt for Rodolfo Aguinado after crushing the revolt in northern Cagayan province yesterday by several hundreds of his armed followers.

Aguinado is a former governor of the province, suspended for his alleged role in a coup attempt last December.

Aguino said she had ordered the troops to use whatever force was necessary as long as civilians were not harmed.

The military put the death toll in Sunday's fighting in the Cagayan capital, Tuguegarao, at eight — seven of Aguinado's men and Brigadier General Oscar Florendo who was taken hostage by the rebels and later shot, apparently while trying to escape.

Armed forces commander General Renato de Villa said in Manila he had ordered his men to "get Aguinado at all costs."

The speaker of Congress said the killing of Florendo, a popular officer who acted as armed forces spokesman, was the act of "pure barbarians" who recognized only force.

"It is with force that these loyal government soldiers must now confront these rebels who seek to close the possibilities for peaceful change in our country," Speaker Ramon Mitra said in a statement.

Florendo, 51, was sent to Tuguegarao to arrest Aguinado on rebellion and murder charges. He was shot three times in the lobby of the hotel Delfino which the rebels had seized at dawn yesterday.

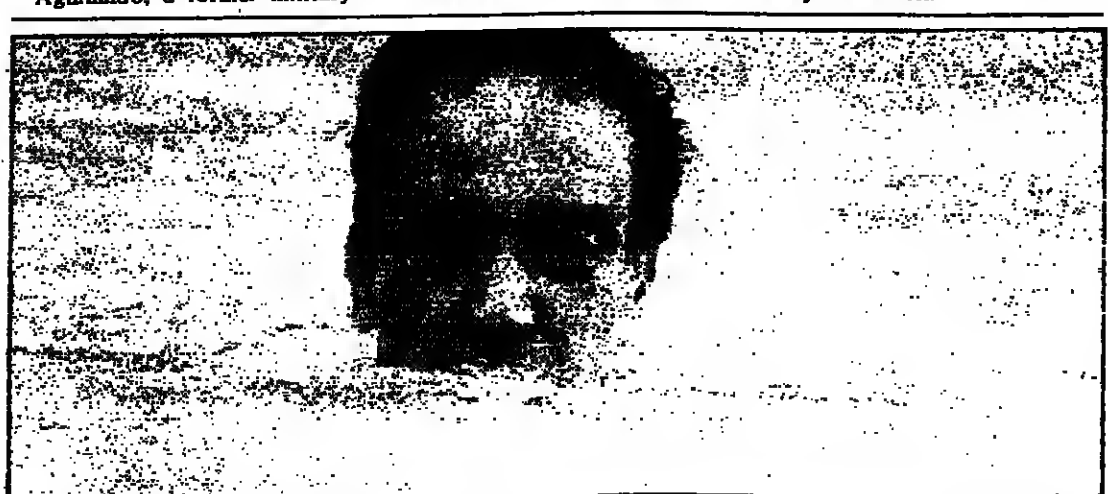
Aguinado, a former military intelligence officer and guerrilla warfare expert, later escaped in an ambulance as troops moved into to recapture the six-story hotel.

"He is operating like a guerrilla," said Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos, who flew to Tuguegarao today to supervise the hunt for the maverick former governor.

At least 20 people, including four government soldiers, were wounded in the battle for the centre of Tuguegarao, hospital sources said.

More than 230 of Aguinado's supporters surrendered, but military sources said the renegade leader still had scores of militiamen and tribesmen with him.

De Villa told a Manila news conference he had ordered local Cagayan commander Colonel Mateo Bawagan relieved of his duties for failing to act decisively enough early in the revolt.



Dipping summit woes Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu swimming in his hotel swimming pool in Palm Springs, California, before boarding a plane for Japan after concluding two days of discussions with US President George Bush. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Iraqi team leaves, on orders from Baghdad, defying conciliation attempts

KUWAIT, March 5, (Agencies): The Iraqi football team left Kuwait today after overnight orders to refuse all conciliation attempts to keep them in the 10th Gulf Cup soccer tournament, hosted by Kuwait.

The players and officials were flown home in a plane sent for them from Iraq.

The orders to pull out came from Qudai Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi President's son, who heads the Iraq Football Federation.

The incident began when the Iraqis protested a Saturday decision by Finnish referee Isa Palsi sending off a key Iraqi player and granting a penalty shot against Iraq in a match with the United Arab Emirates which ended in a 2-2 draw.

They indicated their intention to withdraw if the referee's decision was not reversed.

A statement from the Iraq federation criticised unspecified attempts to use sports to spread Arab disunity. The statement also dis-closed plans with Saudi Arabia to organise an alternative competing contest.

Late yesterday, the other Gulf delegation leaders got together with their Iraqi counterpart Hesham Aljaj and with Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed, the president of the organising committee amid indications that they might be convinced to stay.

Fahd told reporters the meeting was held in a "friendly atmosphere" and said he was "hopeful that Iraq will return to the tournament."

He sought to play down Baghdad's angry statement, saying "there's no question of any communications gap with other Arab nations."

Members of the committee, who spoke on condition they were not named, reported that the Iraqis said they would reconsider pulling out if the red card ruling was revoked.

Sports officials, however, noted that it was practically impossible for the technical commit-ment.

## Forgers busted

SECURITYMEN recently busted an organised network of passport forgers in Kuwait working jointly with people in an Asian country. The network was described as the biggest gang working almost accurately to forge passports and make them look exactly like original ones.

The public prosecution is currently interrogating a number of the accused under detention. They confessed carrying out the crime.

The gang in Kuwait co-ordinated with its associates in the Asian country to obtain business visas for persons from that country. As soon as the persons arrived in Kuwait, the gang used to take their passports, replace the original photograph with another usually for persons staying illegally in the country, thus allowing them to leave the country.



### 'Chaos'

PRESIDENT Mikhail Gorbachev asserted Sunday that a breakup of his country would bring worse chaos to the Soviet Union than the cultural revolution had brought to China.

The Soviet Parliament voted overwhelmingly yesterday to urge Armenia and Azerbaijan to hold talks to end a two-year-old conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh which has killed hundreds of people.

Meanwhile, radical reformers, including Boris Yeltsin (pic), and several former political prisoners, beat old-style communists in contest after contest as election results trickled in from three of the Soviet Union's most populous republics. See page 5

## India files case Sub deal kickback

By Thomas Abraham Arab Times correspondent

NEW DELHI, March 5: The government of Prime Minister V.P. Singh alleged today that kickbacks totalling about \$23 million were paid in a 1981 deal for the purchase of submarines from West Germany.

The Central Bureau of Investigation, the country's federal investigation agency, filed documents in a New Delhi court accusing five former officials in the Defence Ministry and a London-based Indian businessman of criminal conspiracy, embezzlement, bribery, corruption and criminal breach of trust.

The \$334-million deal for the purchase of four 1500 class submarines from Howaldt Deutsche Werke of Kiel, West Germany, was made by the government of former prime minister Indira Gandhi.

Today's court documents named a former vice-admiral and captain of the navy and three civilian officials of the Defence Ministry as being involved in the kickbacks.

(Continued on Page 2)

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## INTERNATIONAL



Brig. Gen. Gqozo

## Pretoria rushes troops to Ciskei

BISHO, South Africa, March 5. (Reuters): South Africa rushed troops to the Ciskei tribal homeland today to quell unrest after a coup and hinted it would recognise the black nationalist rebels who deposed the territory's unpopular president.

Hundreds of soldiers patrolled the poverty-stricken territory to protect government installations and offices after celebrating mobs looted and burnt businesses associated with President Lennox Sebe's 18-year rule.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha said he had made no decision on whether to recognise the Ciskei army soldiers who led the coup.

but said Pretoria would be guided by whether they enjoyed popular support and that this appeared to be the case.

Coup leader Brigadier Oupa Gqozo said his bloodless takeover had saved the 800,000 people of Ciskei — a territory bordering the Indian Ocean — from repressive and corrupt rule and paved the way for reversing apartheid by reincorporating it into South Africa.

"We as black people are tired of being told what to do," he said in an interview. "Our action was not the action of the military alone but the call of the people to rescue them from Sebe's iron-fisted rule."

The coup was the most dramatic incident in a wave of unrest that has swept through the 10 homelands, where about 10 million of South Africa's 27 million blacks live, since the release last month of black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela.

The homelands, pillars of South Africa's race separation policies, are being shaken by mass protests demanding their abolition in line with demands by Mandela's African National Congress (ANC), the main organisation fighting white rule.

Gqozo has shown signs of sympathy for the ANC by releasing about 500 political prisoners, many of them members of the

ANC-allied United Democratic Front (UDF).

He also shouted ANC slogans at a rally of 40,000 people in the Ciskei capital Bisho, where he received an ecstatic welcome from a crowd waving banners backing the ANC and the coup.

In a speech to the rally he appealed for a return to work and school on Tuesday.

Residents said looters had attacked up to 60 factories and hundreds of businesses, some of them owned by Israeli and Taiwanese investors aided by massive South African subsidies.

## India files case in sub deal

(Continued from Page 1)

One of the officials, S.S. Sidhu, is currently the secretary-general of the International Civil Aviation Organisation, based in Canada. The others have retired from service.

The London businessman and alleged arms dealer named in the documents is Gopichand Hinduja, who is also being investigated for his role in a 1986 purchase of Howitzer guns from A.B. Bofors of Sweden, in which kickbacks amounting to \$50 million are alleged to have been paid.

The Sunday magazine, in a report published last week, said Hinduja held on to the \$23 million received as kickbacks in the submarine deal until Rajiv Gandhi, Mrs Gandhi's son and successor, took office in 1984. It said Hinduja then reportedly paid the money to "political bosses in India."

The court documents said that when the Indian government evaluated various submarines, the Kockums 45-B submarine manufactured in Sweden was "found to be the best in operating characteristics ... as well as the cheapest in overall cost."

"Yet, it is alleged that manipulations were done to favour HDW by suppressing material facts," it said.

Sunday said Hinduja used kickbacks to outmanoeuvre Kockums, which "had a decided edge over its German rival until May 1980."

Prime Minister Singh was Rajiv Gandhi's defence minister when he began investigations into the submarine deal. He resigned from the cabinet in April 1987 amid newspaper allegations that his investigations were getting too close to key Gandhi aides.

Singh later resigned from the governing Congress Party and was the chief opposition leader until last November, when he and his national front coalition formed the government after the Nov 22-26 parliamentary elections.

His main campaign planks were promises of clean government and investigations into deals made by previous leaders.

In January, the Central Bureau of Investigation filed preliminary charges in the Bofors Howitzer deal, alleging that kickbacks were also paid in that purchase.

## India fully prepared to meet any threat

Nine more killed in Kashmir clashes

NEW DELHI, March 5 (Agencies): Indian Prime Minister V.P. Singh today said India was fully prepared to meet any threat of aggression.

Talking to journalists here, the prime minister said the National Front Government wanted to involve the people of Kashmir in the "normalisation process."

At least nine people were killed today in Indian-ruled Kashmir as security forces battled to quell Muslim separatist revolt, witnesses said. Officials confirmed four dead, including a non-commissioned army officer shot by one of his own men in Baramulla near the Pakistan border.

Asked if the army would be called on in Kashmir to assist the civil administration in tackling the law and order problem there, the prime minister remarked, "our army is already there."

On the proposed national security council, he said it will be set up soon, after taking "an integrated view" of the defence, home, finance and external affairs ministries.

The then minister of state for home Arun Singh had mooted the idea of setting up a national security council to aid the paramilitary forces in internal security.

Asked how soon the names of the recipients of alleged kickbacks in the Bofors gun deal would come out, the prime minister said investigations by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) were on and that "law will take its course."

The officials said the soldier, who had been detailed to enforce a curfew in Baramulla, also

wounded a colonel. They declined to say why the soldier opened fire.

Witnesses said Muslim militants shot dead four security force men when Indian authorities allowed a brief break in curfew in the state's summer capital, Srinagar, and officials said a passerby died when he was caught in the crossfire.

Indian security forces have sought to enforce curfew on Srinagar for much of the past six weeks of revolt in Jammu and Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state, where militants demand independence or secession to neighbouring Pakistan.

Witnesses said three demonstrators were shot dead in an anti-Indian protest in Baramulla, 55 km (35 miles) north of Srinagar. Officials confirmed two deaths there.

The militant Hezb-ul-Mujahideen group said it had hanged a man it accused of working as an informer for Indian security forces in the Baramulla area.

Kashmiri Hindus and Sikhs, wearing masks to avoid identification, wave black flags in a demonstration outside the Parliament in New Delhi to demand security from government. Nearly 15,000 Hindu and Sikh families in recent weeks have left the Kashmir valley. (Reuters wirephoto)

border.

"We want the people's process to start in Kashmir," Singh said, adding that the Kashmir problem had been "inherited" from the previous government.

"The previous government had allowed the situation in Kashmir to deteriorate to such an extent," he said.

Singh claimed that ever since the National Front Government had taken over, the situation in the valley had improved.

Tougher penalties for rebellion urged

## Lawyers ask court to uphold charges against Enrile

MANILA, March 5. (UPI): State lawyers urged the supreme court today to uphold charges against an opposition leader accused of plotting to oust President Corason Aquino last December, warning dismissal of the case would be an "authorisation to barbarism."

The lawyers' request was in response to opposition leader Juan Ponce Enrile's plea to the high tribunal on Wednesday to declare as invalid the government charge of rebellion with murder, saying a 1956 ruling declared the merging of the two crimes illegal.

Enrile, 66, who was arrested

and detained a week ago, contended that a simple case of rebellion should have been filed against him.

A conviction on rebellion charges carries a maximum of 12 years' imprisonment. The penalty for rebellion with murder is life in prison.

Included in the lawyers' written request to uphold charges against Enrile was a government memo declaring it was time the supreme court reviewed its 1956 decision on the merging of the two crimes. The memo also urged tougher penalties for all forms of rebellion.

Rebellion "is an authorisation to barbarism, a declaration of open season for mayhem," the document said. "If rebellion is given a very light penalty because complexing it with common crimes is pariah, it may mean in practical effect the warranty for every conceivable human evil usually committed in war."

Enrile, a former defence minister who helped oust the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos in a popular uprising in 1986, was scheduled to argue his case before the supreme court today.

Six others were charged with Enrile, a Harvard-trained lawyer, in the Dec 1-7 coup attempt that claimed at least 119 lives and wounded more than 500 people. The uprising was the sixth and bloodiest during Aquino's presidency.

On Sunday, Cagayan governor Rodolfo Aguinaldo attacked

the provincial capital of Tuguegarao, 220 miles (350 km) north of Manila, triggering gun battles that left armed forces civil relations chief Brig. Gen. Oscar Florendo and 19 others dead.

Crack troops were deployed in Cagayan to track down Aguinaldo, 41, a former constabulary colonel who abandoned his men

last evening. The military said 249 of Aguinaldo's 300 tribesmen, civilian volunteers and defectors had surrendered.

Aguino said today she had ordered the armed forces to arrest Aguinaldo, "using such force as is necessary, but taking all feasible measures for the safety of civilians."

Philippine opposition Senator Juan Ponce Enrile reaches out to shake hands with a supporter as police escort him to a Manila court. The court later granted his request to postpone arraignment on rebellion and murder charges until the Supreme Court rules on the validity of the government case. (Reuters wirephoto)

\$12 per month for 500,000

## Interim relief for Bhopal victims

NEW DELHI, March 5. (AP): The government said today it would pay interim compensation of \$12 per month to each of 500,000 people living near the site of the 1984 Bhopal gas disaster.

"The government has been deeply concerned about the continuing miseries of hundreds of thousands of people of Bhopal who were affected by this gas leak disaster," Petroleum and Chemicals Minister M.S. Gurupadaswamy said.

"The disbursement of final compensation may take considerable time and the victims, who have suffered for over five years, cannot be asked to wait any longer," he added.

The leakage of toxic gas from the pesticide plant operated by the US-based Union Carbide Corp. in December 1984 killed at least 3,598 people and injured an estimated 20,000. It has been described as

the world's worst industrial disaster.

The government's announcement today said all the people living in the vicinity of the pesticide plant at the time of the leak would be paid interim compensation, pending the outcome of legal battles with Union Carbide.

The payments will run for at least three years, it said, so that victims "may continue to get regular assistance over a period of time and this may help them in meeting their medical expenses and earning of basic livelihood on a continuous basis."

"This decision, to cover all the residents, has been taken because we feel that all those people who were exposed to the gas have suffered, even though some of the health effects may show up (only) in the long run," Gurupadaswamy said.

## Contra trial jury selection begins

WASHINGTON, March 5. (AP): Jury selection began today in the trial of former National Security Adviser John Poindexter for his role in the Iran-Contra affair that plagued the last two years of Ronald Reagan's presidency.

Richard Becker, one of Poindexter's lawyers, started off the questioning by asking the first prospective juror "what she thought of the former president."

The young woman, an unemployed delivery driver for an auto parts firm, wasn't given a chance to answer. Iran-Contra prosecutor Dan Webb objected to Becker's question, without giving a reason, and US district court judge Harold Greene sustained the objection.

A pool of 206 potential jurors was set up for the Poindexter trial, and 50 of them were in the US courthouse for the first day of questioning. Seventy-six of the 206 prospective jurors said in questionnaires filled out last week that they had seen, read or listened to portions of Poindexter's immunity testimony to Congress in 1987, according to Greene.

Poindexter is accused of conspiracy, obstructing Congress and making false statements for allegedly covering up Oliver North's secret Contra supply network and lying about a 1985 shipment of Hawk missiles to Iran.

Reagan gave videotaped testimony last month in the case and Poindexter's lawyers are expected to replay it in court. Reagan said he instructed his staff that all efforts to assist the Nicaraguan Contras "should be done within the law."

Reagan said he didn't think Poindexter had made any false statements to Congress and that "I'm in complete support" of letters by Poindexter that form the basis of one of the obstruction charges against him concerning the Contras.

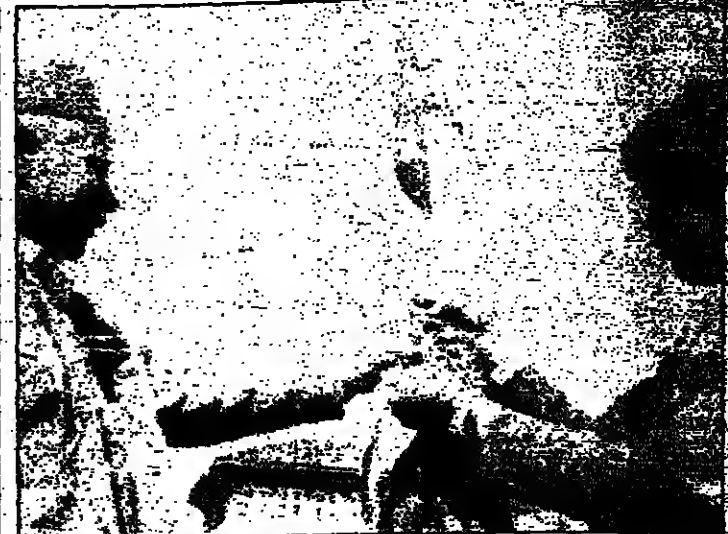
Poindexter is the highest-ranking Reagan administration official to go on trial in the scandal.

The Iran-Contra affair began unfolding in October 1986, when an ammunition-laden C-123 that was part of North's operation was shot down inside Nicaragua. North later testified under a grant of immunity that he began shredding documents after the cargo plane was shot down.

The next month there were news reports from Beirut of US arms sales to Iran. North later testified that these CIA director William Casey advised him to destroy evidence relating to the initiative.

The Contra and Iran parts were linked on Nov 25, 1986, when then-attorney general Edwin Meese announced that Iran arms sale money had been diverted to the Contras.

Poindexter's predecessor as national security adviser, Robert McFarlane, pleaded guilty to crimes in connection with Iran-Contra.



Participants in a one-hour silent protest called by the Nepal Bar Association in their wrists with black ribbon. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Nepalese lawyers picket near court

Govt accused of abuses

KATMANDU, March 5. (UPI): About 600 lawyers sat cross-legged and wearing black armbands today outside the Supreme Court, protesting the government's violent response to a two-week-old campaign seeking multiparty democracy.

The demonstration, accusing the government of killings, human rights abuses and torture, was the second by the lawyers and followed similar protests in recent days by groups representing doctors, writers, engineers, overseas and academicians.

The lawyers sat silently on the law of the court as the president of the Nepal Bar Association, Basudev Dhungana, told them they "cannot tolerate the violation of human rights."

"The government has committed atrocities against peaceful demonstrators," he told the assembly. "It has resorted to tortures and killings. We are today protesting against this."

The movement for multi-party democracy is being led by a coalition of eight opposition parties which, after a meeting yesterday, said they would continue pressure on the kingdom by planning a third nationwide general strike on March 14.

The banned opposition parties also said they have begun publishing illegal newspapers to circulate news of the movement.

Radio, television and the only news agency in Nepal are all government-owned, and "they

have virtually ignored the protest movement in their reports."

The government has acknowledged the deaths of 12 people during demonstrations throughout the country since Feb. 18, while opposition sources say the count is more than twice as high.

The government, in announcing today the release of another 177 people arrested throughout the country, acknowledged making 1,000 arrests in connection with the movement. Opposition sources, however, put the figure at around 5,000.

The latest opposition-organised nation-wide strike, held Friday, shut down most shops and schools in Katmandu and two satellite communities. Several reports of rock-throwing and arson also were reported in the capital, but there were no reports of police violence against protesters.

But while violence on the streets has subsided, the opposition has said many of its members arrested because of their support of the movement now are being tortured in jail. A group of about 50 political prisoners and other inmates in a jail in Jaleswor in southern Nepal began a hunger strike on Saturday to protest their treatment, the opposition said.

Dhungana told a news conference after the Supreme Court demonstration that 59 lawyers had been arrested during the movement and only four had been released.

## Rebels seek truce Savimbi hurt in Jamba bombing

LAUNDA, March 5. (Reuters): Angola's rebel leader Jonas Savimbi was wounded in the bombing of his headquarters at Jamba on Feb 24, Unita radio said.

Angola's right-wing rebels asked today for a ceasefire in their 15-year war with the Marxist government and admitted for the first time government forces had made major advances.

Savimbi said he was ready to accept an immediate ceasefire, organised by Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko, if government forces would abandon their military gains of the past two months.

Government forces say they have captured the key rebel-held town of Mavinga and twice bombed rebel headquarters at Jamba, deep in southeastern Angola, during a major military offensive which began in December.

Until now, the US-backed Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) rebels had denied government military victories.

"I am ready to sign a ceasefire if government forces withdraw to their previous positions," Savimbi said.

"Government forces hold Mavinga," he added.

Unita and the Angolan government have been at war since the country gained independence from Portugal in 1975. Recent peace efforts by eight African countries, headed by Mobutu, have proved inconclusive.

Savimbi's statement coincided with the start of a meeting involving South Africa, Cuba and Angola in Luanda on a 1988 regional peace accord.

The three countries signed the pact in New York under which South Africa, which has backed Unita, agreed to relinquish control of Namibia in return for the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

"We will never accept a ceasefire imposed on us by the MPLA (Angola's ruling party) with their knife to our throat," Savimbi said. "They have to pull back to (the town of) Cueto and we will only accept a ceasefire under the auspices of the mediator."

The Unita chief said a truce should be followed by the formation of a transitional government under the leadership of a man of integrity.

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## PEOPLE AND PLACES

## PINEBLAS PARK, Florida:

Wanted: Salesclerk for tobacco shop — no smokers need apply. One might think a tobacco shop would be safe haven for those smoking persons who already are person-on-grate in restaurants, elevators, trains, planes and automobiles.

But tobacco emporium owner Lindsey Heine, who advertised for the non-smoking clerk this week, believes even smoke shop customers have the right to be exposed to smoke on their own terms.

"I can see how that that might be a little contradictory," she said.

Of the shop's six employees, only one smokes, and she smokes only at home, Ms Heine said. A smoker would disrupt the smoke-free working environment.

"I wear contact lenses," she said, "and you know how smoking is on those." (AP)

## Gorby jokes

## Raisa is in charge

MOSCOW, March 5, (UPI): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev joked yesterday about the grassroots Communist Party organization in his household, saying his wife Raisa is in charge.

"And I will soon be re-elected," shot back Raisa, who voted along with her former husband for candidates in the Russian republic's parliamentary elections.

"Noting the voters' tough task in choosing from an enormous slate of candidates, Gorbachev told Soviet television, "It is hard to choose."

"And I have in my that in our household we also have party organisation meetings," he said.

LONDON, Nebraska: Isaac Stern said playing the violin is not a job but a way of life.

"It's a way of speaking, a way of expressing something," Stern told reporters before a sold-out concert appearance Wednesday night.

"Music is a whole world out there. I'm very sorry for those who cannot get ... this ecstatic moment when you are at one with the phenomena of man's creativity, and you're able to express it, and enjoy it and be moved by it and move others by it. That's very special. That's what is meant by being a musician."

The violinist said he loved working with young people. "I will be 70 this year and I've been playing concerts since I was 15. The world has been very nice to me, and I've taken a lot of things. I have to give something back." (AP)



## Milan fashion show

A model wears an Emporio Armani long coat and shorts yesterday, during autumn/winter '90/91 pret porter collection at the start of the Milan fashion show. (Reuters wirephoto)

RICHMOND, Indiana: Steve Fisher said he did not know trouble was brewing on his beer delivery route when at least 43 12-packs fell out of the back of his truck.

"I thought I had the side door locked down, but I guess it wasn't locked down all the way," Fisher said. "What with (US) 40 being as rough as it is, it just jarred everything loose."

He was called by police about 30 minutes after Wednesday's beer spill to pick up the mess.

Fisher had left a trail of canned and bottled brew along the route between two stores. (AP)

LOS ANGELES: Former US president Ronald Reagan would welcome an opportunity to see Berlin and may visit soon, his spokesman says.

But Reagan spokesman Mark Weinberg denied a report that the former president will campaign for a fledgling East German party, the Alliance of Free Democrats, East Germany's elections are scheduled for March 18.

"There are no specific plans for a trip at this time. However, I anticipate he will travel there in the not-too-distant future," Weinberg said. (AP)

## Drug education begins in kindergarten

WASHINGTON, March 5, (UPI): A majority of US elementary school begin drug education in kindergarten, and most also have programmes to discuss Aids and sex education, a random survey of principals showed yesterday.

The National Association of Elementary School Principals poll followed up a similar survey three years ago. Surveys were mailed to a nation-wide sample and returned by 495 principals in 1987 and 556 in 1990. Most responding principals were from middle-class schools in rural areas, suburbs or small towns.

The survey found elementary schools were beginning drug education earlier. Sex education programmes were increasing at

a quicker rates than drug programmes, but were generally introduced later, between fourth and sixth grade.

Drug education existed in 95 per cent of the schools, compared with 88 per cent in 1987. Fifty-eight per cent of schools began drug education in kindergarten, 30 per cent by third grade and 12 per cent between fourth and sixth grade.

Only 37 per cent of the principals said there was not a drug problem in elementary schools, compared with 54 per cent just three years before.

Seventy-two per cent of the schools had sex education, compared with 61 per cent in 1987. Twenty-two per cent of principals

reported sex education in kindergarten, 17 per cent by third grade and 51 per cent after fourth grade.

Questions about Aids were asked for the first time. Ninety-six per cent of the principals agreed Aids education should be part of the elementary school curriculum, but only 63 per cent said they had an Aids awareness programme.

Of the schools with Aids programmes, 23 per cent begin them in kindergarten, 20 per cent start them by third grade and 44 per cent begin between fourth and sixth grade.

Only 2 per cent of schools have had a student or employee with Aids. Seventy-

seven per cent of the principals said they would accept a student or employee infected with the Aids virus, if health authorities approved.

"Rarely have schools responded so quickly to help society solve its problems," said Samuel Sava, executive director of Naesp. "But, we need some help. As schools devote more time and personnel to society's ills, society simply must increase its investment in schools."

The Naesp, founded in 1921, is a professional organisation representing more than 26,000 elementary and middle school principals in the United States, Canada and overseas.

## Hawaii hotels crippled by strike

HONOLULU, March 5, (AP): Strike-bound hotels are lying in support staff and advertising for replacement workers in the struggle to keep some of Hawaii's biggest hotels open.

The 7,500 members of the local 5 of the hotel employees and restaurant employees union went on strike Saturday in a contract dispute against 11 major hotels and resorts in Hawaii.

The hotels remained open yesterday but many closed their restaurants and snack shops and curtailed services after the strike began. The 11 hotels account for one of every five hotel rooms in Hawaii and two of every five hotel rooms in Waikiki, the state's main tourist destination.

Federal mediator Frank Schoepel said no new contract talks will be scheduled for at least seven days.

Tony Rudledge, union president, promised to pressure hotel management until the hotel's demands are met.

"We may be having some massive sit-ins that the employers may not like and we may get arrested for trespassing," said Rudledge. "You don't get too far walking in a (picket) circle."

Hilton Hotels, owner of Hilton Hawaiian Village, the largest resort in Hawaii with 2,532 rooms, brought in about 50 managers from the mainland, said spokesman Jeanne Park. The hotel also was hiring temporary replacements.

Park said the resort almost has the 700 to 750 people it needed for the day shift Saturday.



## Gored

Spanish bullfighter Lucio Sandin is gored by a fighting bull in Madrid's Ventas bullring yesterday. Sandin, who had lost an eye in a similar accident several years ago, was hospitalised in serious condition. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Fake bomb found at synagogue

ATLANTA March 5, (AP): A phony bomb discovered at a synagogue during a weekend Bay Mitzvah has troubled Jewish leaders and brought back memories of a bombing there three decades ago.

The temple, on Atlanta's Peachtree Street and featured in the current movie "Driving Miss Daisy," was evacuated Saturday morning during a Bay Mitzvah service for a 12-year-old girl.

A bogus bomb, containing wires, a clock and batteries — as well as some confusing messages — was left in the temple's front doorway, under a Hebrew inscription proclaiming the temple a "house of prayer for all people."

## 'Editor not worthy of pursuit'

## Duel called off

MONTEVIDEO, March 5, (Reuters): A duel between a strapping Uruguayan police inspector and a pudgy newspaper editor, approved by the government under a 1920 law that allows duelling, has been called off because of a technicality.

The Uruguayan government gave inspector Saul Claveria permission last month to challenge newspaper editor Federico Fassano to a duel after he refused to retract a story linking the policeman with a smuggling case.

Fassano's daily La Republica had reported that two cars registered under Claveria's name were seen loaded with smuggled goods. The officer proved he had sold the cars years earlier and challenged Fassano to a duel.

Fassano accepted and said he would face the officer unarmed. Further breaking with tradition, he chose a 90-year-old ecologist and a congresswoman as seconds.

Late on Saturday, following a

week in which the planned duel came in for heavy criticism, Claveria's seconds told the newspaper he had been disqualified because he had broken a code of conduct banning duellists from making public statements.

"This is an important ethical triumph," said the balding Fassano, who had turned the duel into a debate on violence. "The farce is over."

The editor told Reuters he would continue to campaign against the 1920 law which permits duelling.

Only one duellist has been killed since the law was established and most challenges have been settled before blood has been shed.

Ex-president Julio Maria Sanguinetti fought in one of Uruguay's last recorded duels in 1971. Both he and his opponent survived.

Claveria withdrew his challenge saying his newspaper publisher opponent "is not worthy of the gentlemanly pursuit."

## Lenin statue up for sale

BUCHAREST, March 5, (Reuters): Mayor Dan Predescu offered to sell Bucharest's statue of Lenin for a million dollars yesterday as a demolition squad prepared to hoist it from the plinth it has occupied for 30 years.

Work to dismantle the statue has lasted two days and it was still standing at nightfall, prompting a rash of jokes about the roots of communism going deeper than expected.

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## INTERNATIONAL

# Call for urgent action against illiteracy

JOMTIEN, Thailand, March 5, (AP): Delegates to an international conference on education called today for urgent action against illiteracy, which affects almost a billion people.

A top United Nations official, Frederico Mayor, told the meeting that the decade has begun with a historic opportunity for peace and an end to ideological confrontation, but added:

"How can we hope to advance on the road to freedom and democracy as long as one in three adults in the world remains illiterate?"

Mayor, head of the UN Scientific, Educational and Cultural Organisation, said almost a billion adults world-wide were illiterate and nearly all were in developing countries.

More than 100 million children have no access to

basic education, also mostly in the poor nations, he said in a speech.

Mayor was among the more than 1,200 representatives from 155 countries at the five-day world conference on education for all, the largest meeting ever on education. The conference at Jomtien, a beach resort about 110 kilometres (68 miles) south-west of Bangkok, is mainly sponsored by the United Nations.

It is expected to endorse a world declaration on providing education for all people and on a framework for achieving this.

In a speech, Thailand's Princess Sirindhorn called poverty the root cause of illiteracy and said it was the duty of all people to fight it. She also stressed the need for education to preserve the environment.

Modern technology thus far has not helped reduce illiteracy, said President Hussain Muhammad Ershad of impoverished Bangladesh.

Besides Ershad, two other heads of state are attending the conference: President Mammooon Abdul Gayoom of the Maldives had been expected but for reasons unknown here, did not arrive.

Mayor said illiteracy was most acute among women in developing countries. In those countries, an average of half the women are illiterate and in some nations, the figure is as high as 75 per cent, he said.

He also blamed the problem on poverty, and said that while the rich nations annually transferred \$50 billion US to the poor nations, the poor countries

were still \$1 trillion in debt.

But Mayor said illiteracy also plagued the developed nations, where he said basic education often has failed to keep pace with technological changes.

"Evidence ... suggests that between 10 and 20 per cent of the population of so-called advanced societies lack essential basic skills of reading, writing, numeracy and problem-solving," he said.

The United Nations has declared 1990 International Literacy Year.

In a statement sent to the conference, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said he expected it to "spur efforts toward drastically reducing illiteracy by the year 2000."

## UN wants probe into invasion tunnels

SEOUL, March 5, (UPI):

Evidence indicates North Korea initiated the newly discovered tunnel carved through the demilitarized zone between South and North Korea, and its existence was a "flagrant violation" of the Korean armistice, the United Nations command said today.

US Navy Rear Adm. Larry Vogt, chief UN command delegate to the Korean military armistice commission, said in a message to his North Korean counterpart, Choi Ui-Ung, that evidence pointed toward North Korean responsibility for the tunnel, a command spokesman said.

"We have evidence on another tunnel under the DMZ, which is an extremely serious violation of the Korean armistice agreement," Vogt said in his message passed through the truce village of Panmunjom, 35 miles (55 km) north of Seoul.

"All the evidence gathered thus far by our multinational special investigation team indicates the tunnel began inside your side of the DMZ, and extends over 1,000 metres (3,300 feet) into our position of the DMZ. Such a tunnel could be used by military forces and represents a flagrant violation of the armistice agreement."

Vogt proposed that both sides have their joint observer teams meet tomorrow to investigate the underground pathway discovered in an eastern sector of the DMZ.

The latest tunnel measures about 6 feet (2 m) wide, six feet high, and was built in a layer of granite 475 feet (145 m) underground and reached nearly 1,150 yards (1,050 m) into the South from the border, the officials said.

South Korea has urged North Korea to stop provocations such as digging tunnels and immediately agree to resume inter-Korea peace talks that would eventually lead to national reunification.

Choi Byung-Bo, spokesman for the government national unification board, said in a statement that the newly discovered tunnel, the fourth one found, was proof North Korea has yet to abandon its hope for a communist takeover of the South.

# China crackdown on faith

## New wave of arrests of underground Catholics

BEIJING, March 5, (Reuters): China's underground Catholics live in fear following a new wave of arrests of many of their members, but church sources say they remain determined to continue practising their faith.

The persecuted Catholics belong to a clandestine church loyal to the Vatican where attendance at mass and taking the sacraments can lead to arrest.

Since the late 1950s the Chinese Catholic church has been a divided house. The Vatican refused to recognise the People's Republic of China and established diplomatic relations

with nationalist Taiwan instead.

In response, the communist government set up a second Catholic body — the Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association whose members follow the old-style Latin mass and do not hold allegiance to the Pope.

Priests and bishops who remained loyal to the Vatican were thrown into prison, where some languished for decades.



English film director, Stephen Frears (left), thanks the audience for awarding him the best foreign film Cesar which was handed to him by French director, Jean-Jacques Annaud, in Paris. The Cesar was given to Frears for his film 'Les Liaisons Dangereuses'.



French film director Bertrand Blier (right) hugs French actress Carole Bouquet (left) after she was awarded France's best film Cesar for her role in Blier's film 'Trop Belle Pour Toi' in Paris.

## 'Trop Belle Pour Toi' wins five Cesars

PARIS, March 5, (AP): "Trop Belle Pour Toi" (Too Good For You), the story of a salesman who drops his too-perfect life with a beautiful wife for a passionate affair with his dumpy secretary, won five Cesars including best movie yesterday in France's equivalents of the Academy awards.

Bertrand Blier, who also won Cesars for best director and best screenplay, accepted the award for best film from American actor Kirk Douglas, who was master of ceremonies.

Carole Bouquet, who played the salesman's wife in "Trop Belle Pour Toi," was named best actress. Among those she edged out was Josiane Balasko, who put on weight to play the fat and apparently ordinary temporary secretary who wins the heart of the car salesman, played by Gerard Depardieu.

Depardieu was nominated for best actor, but the award went to Philippe Noiret for his portrayal of a French army officer in the aftermath of World War I in "La Vie et Rien D'autre" (Life and Nothing Else).

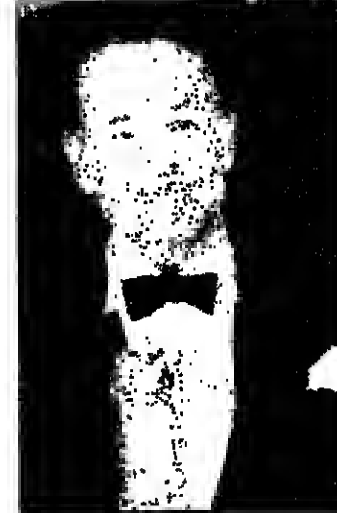
The fifth award for "Trop Belle Pour Toi" went to Claudine Merlino for best editing.

Best foreign film was "Dangerous Liaisons," by the British director Stephen Frears, an adaptation of the 18th-century French novel, "Les Liaisons Dangereuses" by Choderlos de Laclos.

A French-made film adapted from the same novel, "Valmont," won the award for best costumes. Its director, Milos Forman, was nominated for best director.



Vanessa Paradis, 17, was awarded a Cesar for having been chosen as the best promising actress for 1989.



French actor Philippe Noiret poses with his Cesar after he was awarded this prize for best actor, in the movie 'La Vie Et Rien D'autre'.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**16 dead, 50 hurt in bus collision:** Two crowded buses — one carrying members of a wedding party — collided in northern Uttar Pradesh state, killing 16 people and injuring 50, the Press Trust of India news agency said Monday.

The accident occurred Sunday evening on the New Delhi-Lucknow highway in Sitara, a village 50 miles (80 km) east of New Delhi, the news agency said.

It said a bus carrying a wedding party crashed into an oncoming state-owned bus, killing 16 people and injuring 50.

The injured were taken to a New Delhi hospital. No further details were available. (UPI)

**Dhaka schoolboy killed:** A 12-year-old schoolboy was killed and two others injured when a bomb they were making exploded at an abandoned house in Dhaka, police said Monday.

Munir Hossain died instantly in the explosion that occurred Sunday night in downtown Dhaka, police said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Hossain's two friends were hospitalized with serious injuries.

Police said they were investigating why the boys were making a bomb. Home made bombs are widely used for crimes and political agitation in Bangladesh. (AP)

**5 killed in Pakistan quake:** A strong earthquake rocked western Pakistan Monday, killing five people, injuring dozens of others and causing

several houses to collapse, the Associated Press of Pakistan said.

The state-run news agency said the quake was centred in the village of Dastigoran in Baluchistan province, about 540 miles (900 km) southwest of Islamabad.

It said the tremor hit "in the early hours" and measured 6 on the Richter scale.

The agency quoted hospital sources as saying five people died and dozens were injured in Dastigoran, where several mud houses collapsed. (UPI)

**Filipino rebels kill 5:** Communist guerrillas ambushed a police convoy northwest of Manila, killing two policemen and three civilians members of a hunting party, a military commander said Monday.

Lt. Col. Jose Poblete, Zamboanga provincial commander, said those killed in the attack early Sunday included Melchor Yap, 50, a former Philippine Olympic skeet shooting champion, and his 25-year-old son, Noel.

Poblete said Yap, his son, two other members of the hunting party, and three policemen were on their way in two vehicles to the local police station when about 15 New People's Army guerrillas fired at the convoy in a village outside the town of Masinloc, 160 kilometres (100 miles) northeast of Manila.

The policemen were escorting the hunting party back to the station to verify members' identities after it was learned they were in a rebel-infested

area, Poblete said.

Another civilian and a policeman were injured in the attack. (AP)

**Media silent on protest:** After the worst street protests in Ivory Coast's 30-year history, people are increasingly angry at the failure of the country's official media to fully report the unrest on their doorstep.

Ivory Coast has some of the slickest media in West Africa, but Ivorians were forced to tune in to foreign radio broadcasts — or a local gossip station — for news of the unprecedented pro-democracy demonstrations.

"I listen to British Radio's Broadcasts in Hausa (a local language) every afternoon," said Saif, owner of one of the city's hundreds of roadside cafes. "They reported on protests right here in front of my shop."

(Reuters)

**Gabon moves to ease unrest:** Gabon, shaken by civil strife, announced a series of measures on Sunday to ease the financial squeeze on workers in black Africa's wealthiest nation.

The measures, announced on the main evening television news bulletin, prompted bank and insurance union leaders to call off a strike due to start on Monday.

They included immediate refund by the state of a three per cent tax on all wages, cheaper health services and lower water tariffs. (Reuters)

## Heroin death for Nigerian

BANGKOK, March 5, (AP): A

28-year-old Nigerian man was found dead of an overdose after a condom filled with heroin burst in his stomach, a senior police officer said today.

The body of Folarin Olu Atilara, of Lagos, was found on Feb 26 in his hotel room in Bangkok, said Maj. Sinmanou Puttigit.

The officer said 41 condoms filled with 500 grammes (17.6 ounces) of heroin were found in his stomach. Only one had burst, killing him, Sinmanou said.

He said police assumed that the Nigerian, who arrived in Thailand last month, had planned to try to smuggle the drugs out of the country.

In the past 14 months, nine Nigerians have been arrested in Thailand on charges of trying to take a total of 101 kilograms (223 pounds) of heroin out of the country, said an official of the office of the Narcotics Control Board, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Sihanouk said he had an underground bunker near his house, but had yet to use it.

As he spoke, an artillery duel between resistance and government forces was clearly audible. Officers said the fighting was about 17 miles (27 km) away.

Sihanouk's son, Prince Norodon Ranariddh, commander of the forces loyal to Sihanouk, said his father actually moved among three houses in three areas for security reasons.

Throughout the interview, the area was guarded by troops wearing new US-supplied camouflage uniforms and carrying new French-made assault rifles.

Sihanouk insisted he got only "non-lethal" assistance from the United States, including uniforms, medicine, radio equipment and food.



## Troops' presence

A couple walk holding hands before marching troops in Beijing's Tiananmen Square. Warmer spring weather and sunny days have brought residents back to the square nine months after the massacre of protesters. The government's fearful of renewed turmoil have reportedly increased troops in the area. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Radicals deplore Mandela peace

### Hit squad chief held

HARARE, March 5, (Reuters):

The leader of the radical Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC) denounced Nelson Mandela's call for reconciliation with whites in South Africa and said his appeal for unity among black groups was a waste of time.

Zeph Mothopeng, the 76-year-old PAC president, asked at a news conference today about Mandela's efforts to allay the fears of whites in South Africa, said: "Making allowances for the whites — that is compromise, appeasement."

In other developments South African police said today they had arrested the commander of a shadowy military unit suspected of assassinating two prominent

leftwing activists.

Colonel Joe Verster, head of the Civil Co-operation Bureau, was arrested on Friday and is being held under security laws which allow police to detain him indefinitely without trial.

Mandela, deputy president of the rival African National Congress (ANC), appealed for black unity and promised reconciliation to South Africa's five million whites on the first day of his visit to Zimbabwe yesterday.

"We do not believe in appeasement," Mothopeng said. "We are going to recapture, to win and attain our freedom." He scorned Mandela's famous speech from the dock at his 1964 trial, when he spoke of his dual

fight against both white and black domination.

"That statement is false. Black people have never dominated any whites. We have never had that opportunity. That is projecting the sins of the white people on the black people," Mothopeng declared.

He said Mandela's remarks repeated in his first speech after release from prison on February 11, were "nice pleasing words" to white ears.

Asked about Mandela's call for unity of all anti-apartheid forces, Mothopeng said: "I don't understand what he means by that ... parties have their own policies. You will be wasting your time because they will never come together."

He said the whites could not expect anything as whites, only as "Azzanians," the PAC term for South Africans. "They will always be drowned by the black majority, they must accept that. It is senseless to think that we are going to consider the whites."

Mothopeng confirmed that he had turned down an invitation from President Robert Mugabe to a state dinner in honour of Mandela last night.

He said the PAC leadership was busy meeting with its sister Pan-Africanist Movement (PAM) and that while the leadership first agreed he should go, it was later decided that security at the dinner was inadequate.

He said the whites could not expect anything as whites, only as "Azzanians," the PAC term for South Africans. "They will always be drowned by the black majority, they must accept that. It is senseless to think that we are going to consider the whites."

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## Stay in jungle base makes Sihanouk happy, restores his self-esteem

SEREIPEAP, Cambodia, March 5, (UPI): Prince Norodon Sihanouk, accustomed to levelling palaces around the world, said today his return to life in a jungle base within artillery range of his Vietnamese-backed enemies has restored his self-esteem.

"I feel much happier to be on Khmer soil and relatively in danger," the 68-year-old former king said in his first interview since returning last week to live in a resistance-held area near the Thai-Cambodian border.

The prince, known for his love of good wine and fine French cuisine, said with what appeared to be a touch of regret that he ate only Cambodian food at the base.

He insisted he did not miss the physical comforts of his home in France or his palaces in

China and North Korea.

"In my palace I had everything perfect as far as comfort is concerned, but I did not have self-esteem," he said.

Sihanouk, speaking with customary exuberance for more than two hours, told a small group of reporters that he had offered his palaces to former prime minister Pol Pot and other leaders of the Khmer Rouge.

The Khmer Rouge leadership has been an embarrassment to the three-party resistance because of their brutal record during their 1975-1979 rule when more than one million people died from execution, hunger and disease.

He said the offer was rejected by nominal Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan who said Pol Pot would never leave Cambodia "because

he is a great patriot."

Sihanouk last lived in Cambodia as a pampered prisoner of the Khmer Rouge until he escaped just before a Vietnamese invasion force reached Phnom Penh Jan 7, 1979.

The white-haired prince seemed eager to confront speculation he could not adapt to the simple life of the base, about a mile (1,500 metres) from the Thai border.

"See how different the bathroom is from my palace," he said, showing pictures of a comfortable little wooden house and a simple bathroom. Sihanouk apologised to the group for not bringing them to the house because of what he said were fears government gunners would be able to pinpoint its location and shell it.

Sihanouk said he had an underground bunker near his house, but had yet to use it.

As he spoke, an artillery duel between resistance and government forces was clearly audible. Officers said the fighting was about 17 miles (27 km) away.

Sihanouk's son, Prince Norodon Ranariddh, commander of the forces loyal to Sihanouk, said his father actually moved among three houses in three areas for security reasons.

Throughout the interview, the area was guarded by troops wearing new US-supplied camouflage uniforms and carrying new French-made assault rifles.

Sihanouk insisted he got only "non-lethal" assistance from the United States, including uniforms, medicine, radio equipment and food.



## Peacock pledges lower debt

Liberal Party leader, Andrew Peacock, flanked by his daughters shakes hands with supporters after delivering his party's policy speech at a rally on Monday. He promised Australians lower debt, tax and inflation if they voted him to power in the March 24 general elections. (Reuters wirephoto)







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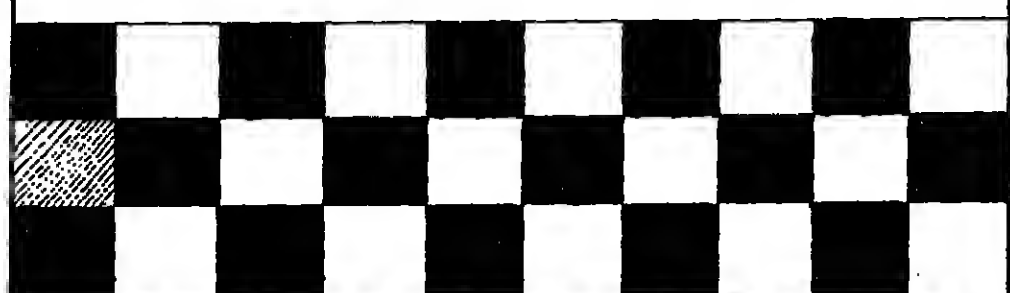
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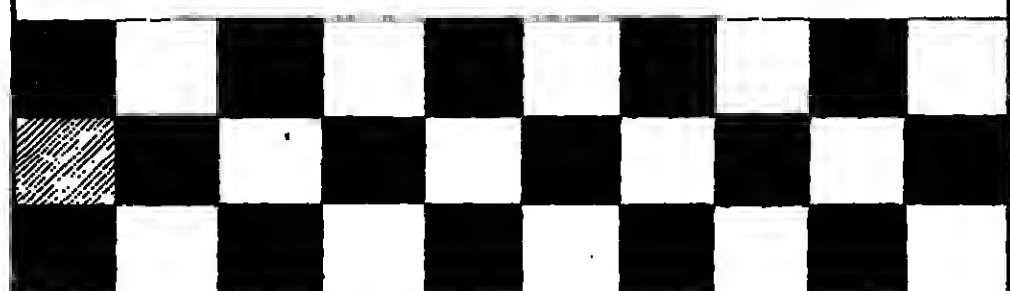
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## Flats for Kuwaiti women married to non-Kuwaitis

## 5,000 apply for state housing

THE National Housing Authority is reportedly endeavouring to designate flats for Kuwaiti women married to non-Kuwaitis on regular rental contracts at a symbolic value not exceeding KD40, in Sabah Al Salem and Sawabir areas.

Sources close to NHA were quoted as saying that this step was an attempt to

compensate this category of applicants for their non-inclusion into the official housing care system.

The sources said that the Minister of State for Housing Affairs Nasser Abdullah Al Roudhan would soon issue a decision forming a committee of senior NHA officials to look into cases of Kuwaiti

women married to non-Kuwaitis, which total more than 5,000. These had applied for houses although they failed to qualify according to the endorsed stipulations.

The sources added that the committee would consider these cases individually to decide who could be provided with rented flats. A new set of stipulations would be

executed upon rental of these flats for the qualified applicants. This would include that the non-Kuwaiti husband be of Arabic nationality, with children, have a regular Civil ID-card. He should have been in the country for a certain length of time on a permanent job and their financial situation does not enable them to afford renting a flat.

## Info bank to be made available to all: Hassan

By Ahmad Aliyash

NOT enough light has been shed on the MOC pavilion at the Info 90 exhibition at the International Fair Ground in Mishref, particularly the epoch-making event which Kuwait is about to witness and which is represented in the telecommunications linkage of the country with different states of the world via 1,200 international banks to obtain all sorts of information in different scientific, economic political and social fields.

The director of the PTT Department at the MOC Fadel Abul Hassan says that it will be a fantastic service available to all people living in Kuwait through up-to-date computer terminals located in the MOC's headquarters building to serve all subscribers wishing to benefit from this system. The service would be available at competitive subscription fees.

This network will cover the entire state of Kuwait, and would be set up in co-operation with famous international firms. Hassan added that subscribers would be able to use their PC computer terminals to gain access to this new system network after entering the code password. Subscribers wishing to obtain this service would be able to do so following the publication of the relevant fees and official start of this new service, Hassan said.

He added that the ministry, prompted by its concern to keep up with the latest technological advances felt it necessary to introduce this new service to subscribers. More such new services in store for the subscribers, which would be the provision of coin-operated stamp-selling machines which would be installed in different public places to facilitate obtaining stamps and reduce crowds at the stamp-selling windows of the post office department. Further, he said that auto-magnetic card telephone systems would be set up in different public places to save time and effort for subscribers wishing to make overseas calls. These auto-magnetic cards would be available at shopping centres and co-ops.

He pointed out that other new subscriber services included the introduction of the immediate collection of due subscriber telephone bills through computerised billing systems which enabled the issue and payment of subscriber bills.

Telephone calling systems would also be provided on highways, which would be directly linked to police patrols to respond to calls for help in emergency situations. A new computerised call-reserving system to answer incoming calls made to the operators while the latter was busy on the phone with another subscriber will also be provided, Hassan said.

## UAE press hails FNC

ABU DHABI, March 5, (Kuna): The United Arab Emirates newspaper Al Ittihad commented editorially yesterday on the opening of the Federal National Council session by President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan.

It said in part: "On the path of the democratic march laid down by His Highness President Sheikh Zayed, the FNC resumes its sessions today in a national ceremony patronised by His Highness the president."

"The FNC has shown over the past years that the Shura is the hallmark of national action in the UAE and democracy, as HH wanted it, is a political dogma and true practice not a mere slogan."

THE director of the Arab Monetary Fund and undersecretary of the Saudi Finance Ministry Osama Al Faqih has said that the total value of funds to Egypt over the past 14 months amounted to \$65.5 million equalling 85 per cent of Egypt's share in the fund.

He said that the fund is currently considering the establishment of a new institution to finance Arab trading activities, the basic function of which is to contribute to minimising problems of the Arab commercial balance of payments, improve intra-Arab commercial exchange and step up Arab exports. The proposed institution's capital is \$500 million dollars, and the rest would be contributions by Arab states.

He said that it is essential to draw up a well-knit Arab economic



## Indian envoy received

Hewell Governor, Abdul Latif Mohammed Al Berjes received at his office today the Ambassador of India in Kuwait, Arun Kumar Budhiraja. Both sides exchanged mutual talks.

## No change in air-freight customs charges: Moosa

## Formalities to be simplified

THE director of customs Khaled Al Moosa has ruled out any intention of possible increase of customs charges on air-freighted goods. He announced that an immediate customs clearing system will shortly be in operation.

Moosa told a local daily that the relevant draft bill had been prepared and goods imported in non-commercial quantities, by individuals would be released immediately upon payment of due charges at the airport. The new system would put an end to all forms of commercial fraud. By this step customs charges would be estimated and a special format-design would be available for this purpose to be filled out by the person concerned.

He highlighted the negative effect of the Iraq-Iran war on the influx of commercial commodities into the country, and also on the work rates at the Air Customs Department. This, he said, has resulted in the emergence of a state of semi-dislocation of sea-freighting activities, and consequently more

emphasis began to be laid on air freight.

He said that during the war the daily average of transactions processed at the Air Customs Department reached 600.

Formalities He said that the department is one part of the General Customs Department and that instructions were issued to develop work level by way of ensuring the necessary ease for the flow of goods, including the simplification of routine formalities or importer-procedures, within the framework of a decentralised operational system.

Therefore, customs clearance is performed on a speedy basis and high-fringe package, such as foodstuffs and other perishables would be released in 24 hours. The official said that the free commercial system in the country enabled importers to establish free commercial ties with suppliers from all states in the world, excluding those boycotted according to Kuwait fully abided by boycott decisions.

Smuggling attempts still sought to permeate customs barriers and there were those who still tried to smuggle cannabis flowers with plants or flower packages, while banned sorts of chewing material would be placed in vegetables and fruit cargoes, but all were foiled, Moosa said.

He added that department personnel and customs officers were regularly and intensively trained in all smuggling techniques whereby they would always be ready to foil any smuggling attempt.

The department is considering the implementation of new regulations to put an end to attempts by individuals to bring in goods and pretend that these were mere gifts in order to avoid taxes. Under the new regulations these goods will be confiscated if they fail to produce the necessary official documents; as a demarcation line would identify between quantities of commercial nature and those for individual or personal use.

## Telephone agreement endorsed

ABU DHABI, March 5, (Kuna): An agreement between the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Bahrain was signed today on the use of mobile phones in the three countries with a unified control system.

The agreement signed by representatives of telecommunications departments in Kuwait, Bahrain and UAE stipulated regulations and technical procedures that would enable the phone owner to make calls to any two of the countries while he is in the third. The procedures require a temporary change of the subscribers' phone number while he is away from his home country.

The account of the subscriber is to be settled with the telecommunication establishment in his country.

General-Director of UAE Telecommunications Corporation Ali Al Owais said a study is currently undertaken for an international mobile phone system to be used after 1992 and will enable the owner of the phone to use it freely during travels without having to change the number.

## Forensic work up to the mark

THE senior medical examiner at the Public Administration for Criminal Evidence, PACE—Dr Hamed Kiram has said that forensic medicine is a science that passes medical facts to investigators and judges in a simple and easy manner. The forensic medicine work at PACE is divided into two sections, the first for examining dead people and other for the living. The first examines criminal and suspected deaths as well as victims of road accidents or other accidents. It is also concerned in examining the causes of sudden death for which physicians of the public health ministry are uncertain.

He added that bodies that are referred to PACE from prosecution or investigation authorities are completely dissected to reveal reasons of death. The medical examiner usually takes blood and urine samples of dead persons besides samples from his internal organs and sends them to the criminal labs to get accurate results.

The labs are provided with latest equipment that reveals the underlying causes of death. But he added that pathologists usually make external examinations on bodies of victims of road accidents and sometimes they dissect these bodies if the reason of death is suspected, he said.

Dr Kiram pointed out that pathologists also examine the living who are injured in accidents or accused of committing crimes.

A specialist at forgery section of PACE Khayal Al Bader said that the department conducts technical inspection of documents to reveal if they are forged or not. She commented that cases of forged passports have increased in the country recently and referred this to the fact that Kuwait is an open commercial country so foreigners forge passports to enter the country for work. The section is very experienced in examining passports issued by all countries of the world due to the large number of nationalities living in Kuwait. "We are able to expose any forgery in these passports by using the latest technological equipments, the official said. She added that most currency forgery is made in US dollars because all banknotes are same size and colour and it is an international currency."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Premier receives

KUWAIT, March 5, (Kuna): HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah today received a delegation of the Arab-Italian Friendship Society, headed by its president Virginio Rognomi on the occasion of their visit to the country.

The meeting was attended by the Italian Ambassador to Kuwait Marco Colombo. Sheikh Saad, later on, received Polish Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Marcin Swiechowski who conveyed to HH a written message from Polish Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki.

The meeting was attended by Commerce and Industry Minister Faisal Al Khaled and the Polish Ambassador to Kuwait, Dr Witold Jurasz.

## British journalist

KUWAIT, March 5, (Kuna): Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah today received British journalist Peter Mansfield.

Sheikh Jaber then received head of the Kuwaiti Journalists Association Ahmad Yousef Behbani accompanied by journalists who have been honoured on the 25th anniversary of the KJA's establishment namely Khalil Mahmoud, Abdullah Al-Sheeti, Khaled Qutme, Abdullah Al-Qaq, Saad Sabonji, Qasem Al-Fayni and Salim Saleem.

The minister then received director of the London-based Contact Middle East Company Adel Malek and proprietor and Chief Editor of Al-Sabah magazine Bashir Buwarshi.

## Ahmadi visit

KUWAIT, March 5, (Kuna): Visiting Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi and the accompanying delegation today paid a visit to the Ahmadi government where they visited the Kuwait Oil Company.

Mwinyi was accompanied by Minister of Public Works and head of the honorary mission Abdul Rahman Ibrahim Al-Houti.

## Development plans

KUWAIT, March 5, (Kuna): The employees bureau's under-secretary for administrative development affairs Dr Nasser Al-Sane today affirmed that the bureau had adopted several procedures to implement the Cabinet resolution asking all government departments to prepare short-term development plans.

He told Kuna that the bureau formed technical teams headed by three Kuwaiti experts to assist the government departments in drafting such plans.

In the field of simplifying transactions of citizens with the 30 government circles directly serving the public in 700 various paper works, he said that they have expressed preparedness to develop their work mechanism.

## Diabetes meet

KUWAIT, March 5, (Kuna): Minister of Higher Education Dr Ali Abdullah Al-Shanlan yesterday inaugurated the fourth Kuwait International Meeting for Medical Sciences which will discuss, diabetes, on behalf of His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Dr Shanlan said in his inaugural speech that selecting the diabetes as a theme of the meeting has been important because of the number of people who are suffering from it.

He expressed pleasure that representatives of 24 countries are taking part in the meeting which will come to a close March 8.

The scientific seminars are due to begin today at the medical faculty premises in Jabriya in which 250 researchers are taking part.

## Iraqi killed

A 30-year-old Iraqi national guard was killed when a gas cylinder exploded in his room at Qurain area. The room was ablaze after the explosion. The victim was guarding an under-construction villa at Qurain. Investigations showed that there was no criminal intent in the accident.

## Courtesy visit

CAIRO, March 5, (Kuna): Kuwaiti Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber paid a courtesy visit to the Egyptian writer Ahmad Bahaa Al-Din at Cairo hospital.

Bahaa Al-Din is believed to be suffering a stroke.



# KU plan to increase medical seats

## Demand for medicos on the rise

By James Aspin

KUWAIT University is planning to increase the number of graduates of faculties of medicine and the medical allied faculty as well as other health institutes by supporting the programmes of higher studies in medical sciences. The university must submit programmes of higher

studies to get the Ph.D degree in some majors. The university is also seeking to establish two new faculties for dentistry and pharmacology in Jabriya (faculty of medicine). The faculty of medicine works to provide health ministry with medical cadres specialised in different majors to meet the increasing demands of the state for these cadres. The statistics of the health

ministry showed that patients who visited the health centres during the last year increased by 3 per cent compared to 1988 while patients who visited the prevention health centres reduced by 5 per cent due to the organisation of work at these centres.

Meanwhile, Kuwait University developed its ties with local scientific bodies like Kuwait Foundation for the

Advancement of Science, (KfAS) Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR), Environmental Protection Council and the Public Authority for Agriculture.

The university agreed with KfAS to finance 34 research papers. It also agreed to research 6 projects for the favour of EPC and to have two joint projects with KISR and one with PAFW.

## Range meet participants visit field station here

By Lina Al Khalafawi  
Arab Times staff

ON the third day of the Range Management Conference, two field trips were organised to enable conference participants to better familiarise themselves with research and development activities in Kuwait. The first trip was to emphasise range and halophytes while the second one was to emphasise livestock and fowling production. Both trips were to Sabkhiya field station.

Meanwhile, late Sunday, two more papers were presented. The first was about the effect of production and grazing pressure on rangelands in the northern part of Saudi Arabia.

M. Dizan of Saudi Arabia said that a study was carried out on nine different sites representing the major vegetation types of rangelands in northern Saudi Arabia to investigate the effect of a three-year experimental project to evaluate the protection of fowling production and present grazing pressure of communally grazed rangelands.

He added that a paired plot technique was used to compare protected (fenced) and similar grazed sites. The average herbage yield of the nine sites was 113 and 29 kg dry matter (DM) per hectare for the protected and grazed sites respectively.

The official added that current year's growth in the fenced areas ranged from 11 kg DM/ha in poor sites to 440 kg DM/ha in good sites, while that in grazed areas ranged from 1 kg DM/ha to 61 kg DM/ha for the poor and good sites respectively.

He concluded that the significant differences in forage yield between the protected and unprotected sites showed heavy grazing pressure on the perennial species and serious downward trend in both annual and perennial plants in grazed areas.

The other paper discussed the influence of difference of grazing on the natural vegetation cover and its woody plants under Mediterranean climate.

Mohyiddin Kaway from Faculty of Agriculture, University of Aleppo, Syria, said that overgrazing had a very marked effect on vegetation cover and its woody species.

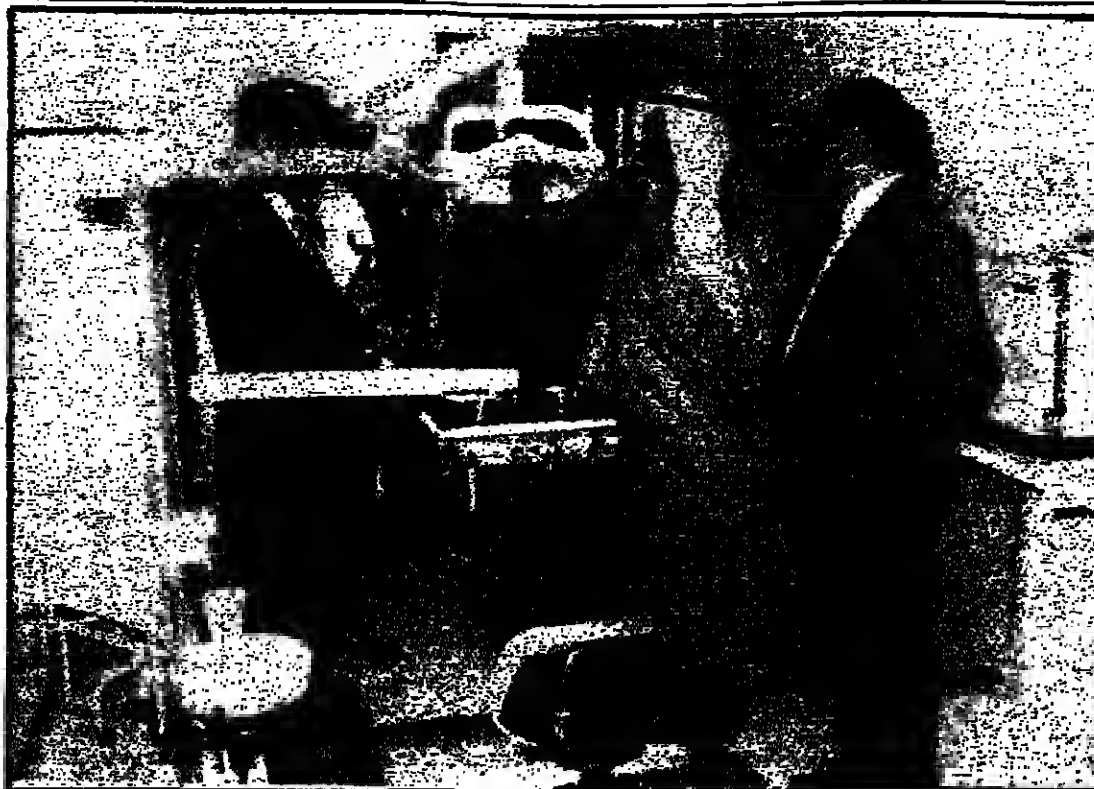
He added that it considerably reduced the amount of woody plants and vegetation height. A significant change was found in morphological features of the plants studied and their life cycles. Plants were unable to reach flowering and seed maturity stages. Consequently most of the palatable plants disappeared within three years of overgrazing.

## GCC power committee to meet soon

BAHRAIN, March 5. (Reuters): Officials from the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) will meet in Bahrain tomorrow to discuss an ambitious \$1.6 billion power grid project to link their electricity networks.

The Gulf News Agency said the first stage of the network would link Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain and Kuwait, the second would join the southern GCC states of Oman and the United Arab Emirates and the third the northern and southern grids.

Montreal-based consultant Hydro-Quebec International has won a \$1.25 million contract for a detailed outline of the project, which would take at least a decade to complete.



Specialised medical centre opened

Planning Minister and Acting Health Minister Dr. Abdul Rahman Al Awadi and Farwaniya Governor Sheikh Ahmad Al Humoud yesterday opened the Riggei Specialised Medical Centre. The centre will provide primary and specialised medical care to several areas in Farwaniya governorate.

It will provide medical services for internal, psychiatric and skin diseases beside general surgery, nose, ear and throat services, dental services and others. The centre is expected to receive over 50,000 patients every year.

Picture shows Awadi and Sheikh Ahmed inspecting some equipment at the centre.

## Amadeus delight

### Wide musical range

By Jadranka Porter  
Arab Times staff

THE Amadeus Chamber Orchestra, led by its founder Agnieszka Daczmal, performed Sunday in a concert that delighted the audience with popular pieces but also gave a glimpse into the so-called neo-classical style that generally has less instant appeal.

The repertoire that included Mozart and Tchaikovsky as well as two contemporary Polish composers reflected the group's wide musical range and subtlety. But Daczmal, the only Polish woman conductor and one of the few in the world, displayed some daring when she included Grazyna Bacewicz's *Divertimento for Strings* in the programme for an unseasoned audience. Bacewicz composed in neo-classic idiom associated with Stravinsky's works. Igor Stravinsky, one of the most outstanding 20th century composers, changed and renewed musical thought and broke down the tradition of symmetrical phrasing.

### Inevitable

The impression is that Bacewicz's dynamic and somewhat disturbing score was more instructive than enjoyable for the audience at the Kuwait International Hotel.

In contrast, Asia and Mozart by another modern Polish composer, Krzysztof Penderecki, as its title indicates, could have easily been written a century

ago. The light, cheerful and brief composition was a fitting opening piece for the concert.

Then there was that uplifting and exuberant piece of music that is an inevitable item on every chamber orchestra's repertoire — *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* by Mozart, regarded by many as the greatest musical genius of all times. Romantic, melodious and familiar it was easy to admire.

The second part of the concert was entirely devoted to Tchaikovsky's exquisite *Serenade for Strings in C Major (Opus 48)*. The orchestra conveyed the composer's wealth of melodic imagination and once again showed how easily his works bridge the gulf between musicians and the general public. A tormented and highly emotional person, Tchaikovsky is said to have put his whole soul into his works. As interpreted by Amadeus he demanded the same of the audience, scooping their emotions and holding them captive until the finale.

It is a pity that Kuwait does not have a concert hall with proper acoustics where a concert like this would have had a greater impact. It is an even greater pity that throughout the performance people were going in and out of the ballroom where the concert was held, and no one stopped them. They created noise and commotion that disturbed the players and annoyed the rest of the audience. If classical music is new to Kuwait and its audience untrained, it is the duty of the hotel to discipline its guests. Doors should be closed to stop casual visitors from strolling in and out of the hall at whim.



Paet council chairman received

General Director of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Dr Abdul Rahman Al Mithailan met with students of applied college councils chairman Sunday. During the meeting, he reviewed some of the students' concerns and discussed all students matters of different authority colleges.

The meeting which was held at the conference room at Dasman Complex was attended by the dean of students and trainees affairs, Hesham Al Mutawa, the assistant dean for students activity and director of public relations, Khaled Al Ertan and the director of the authority general director's office Abdullah Al Mansour.

## Farwaniya governorate council to meet citizens needs

By Salim Al Wazani

THE Governor of Farwaniya Sheikh Ahmad Al Humoud Al Sabah has said that the council of the governorate has favoured several plans and programmes to meet requirements of citizens in the governorate and to develop public service in the area. He added that Farwaniya Governorate is the first visual impression of

visitors who arrive at Kuwait Airport. This means that no effort should be spared to present a civilised face of Kuwait and to achieve requirements and needs of citizens as soon as possible.

Speaking on the crime scene, the official said that the governorate encounters such episodes which are common to other areas of the state. But he added that the gover-

norate has made several studies to put an end to these crimes in co-operation with relevant authorities. He stressed that parents should co-operate with authorities in following up and controlling their children to prevent them from committing crimes. We shall take strict actions against anyone who violates the law or tries to damage public properties, he said.

Sheikh Ahmad Al Humoud pointed out

that requirements and needs of the people in Farwaniya Governorate are many and cover different educational, sporting, health, social and entertainment fields. The council of the governorate has prepared lists of these needs to be carried out according to priority and necessity. These projects are being studied by the specialised committees of the council, he said.

## Grounded vessel afloat again

KUWAIT, March 5. (Kuna): A Cypriot-registered cargo vessel which grounded some 32 nautical miles to the southeast of the Kuwaiti Al Shuaiba Port two days ago was later brought afloat by high tide, a senior Kuwaiti maritime official said today.

The 29,285-ton-deadweight vessel, Cape Berton, was coming to Shuaiba from Arab Gulf ports to pick up cargo when it ran aground Saturday, according to Assistant Director General of the Ports Public Authority Captain Abdul Rahman Al Nihari.

Acting upon the request of the vessel's agent, the Shuaiba Port Authority dispatched a tugboat with a Kuwaiti crew to rescue Cape Berton and to check that no oil pollution resulted from the incident, he said.

Nihari said no trace of pollution was detected and that the vessel later cruised to Shuaiba Port after regaining balance.

The Shuaiba Port management asked the maritime authorities to examine the vessel which will dock in Shuaiba later today to see if it was fit for loading, Nihari said.

## Kisr holds workshop on computers in education

THE director general of Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR), Dr Ahmad Al Jassar inaugurated a workshop on using computers in educational documentation and information in the Arab countries. Jassar said in his speech that the workshop is considered a step to the basic structure of information by benefiting from the latest technology and programmes prepared by Unesco and the International Education Bureau. He stressed on the importance of concentrating on skills that are required to build a base of educational information through the computer. The computer will allow specialists to retrieve documents and information easily, he said.

The secretary general of the Kuwaiti National Committee for Education, Science and Culture Sulaiman Al Enzi said that there are good efforts made in the Arab countries to develop educational research but they are working alone without co-ordination or connection. He added that the workshop aims at building an Arab joint view and project to benefit from computers in the different Arab educational projects. He added that the gap between Arab achievements and those of the advanced countries in this field is increasing which requires joint efforts to benefit from their experiences.

## UASC route

KUWAIT, March 5. (Kuna): The Kuwait-based United Arab Shipping Company (UASC) has launched a regular weekly route for containers from the Far East ports to the Arab Gulf and the Red Sea terminals.

A UASC official source told Kuna the Far East route is the first of its kind and was made possible when the company added one container vessel of its seven-unit fleet.

He added that the company was also launching a bi-monthly similar service between the North American ports and the Arab Gulf and Red Sea as of this month.

The source expressed hope that the container service would benefit Gulf traders and help cut import costs.



H.H. the Amir hosted a dinner in honour of the Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi and the accompanying delegation.

## Customs-free zone a must, says ex-director

### Call to unify charges

THE ex-director general of Kuwait's Customs Department Abdulmohsen Al Qodhaibi was quoted as saying that he concurs with the proposal to transform the customs department into a public corporation.

In an interview with a local daily, Qodhaibi said the services of the department will be developed in case such a measure is actioned as the corporation will have more independence and flexibility.

He praised the co-operation shown by the Ministry of Interior's various departments when he was its head. He commented that there existed a daily co-ordination between departments at the ministry. He added that the customs department is undertaking the enforcement of other ministerial decisions adopted by the ministries concerned including the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Ministry of Communications and the Ministry of Information.

Meanwhile, the official has suggested that the customs department should depend mainly on the certificate of origin towards the classification of

imported goods, particularly those coming from Gulf countries. He added that a special laboratory should be set up to undertake this task in order to avoid any manipulation in the quality.

### Procedures

Speaking of the free zones and their role in developing customs procedures, the official said that the economic slump and the Iraq-Iran war had negatively reflected on import and export movement in Kuwait which had eventually affected the state's revenues accruing from customs duties. Hence the customs-free zone is necessary and it should be set up under the umbrella of Gulf Co-operation Council, provided that no contradiction should be allowed among the free zones in the member states.

He disclosed that he had set up the law and charter of the free zones when he was in office, but the law now is in need of review in the light of changes prevailing in the region.

On the other hand, the official has called for unifying customs duties among the GCC coun-

tries, stressing that such a step will help streamline the exchange and flow of commercial commodities among member states.

Speaking of the attempts to bypass the Arab Boycott regulations, the official said that these attempts mainly centred on forging relevant documents in addition to some attempts in this direction by hawkers and unscrupulous dealers.

### Resolutions

However, the official has called for co-ordination among Arab states towards strict application of the boycott procedures. He added that some countries were dealing with the boycott resolutions in the light of its interests while some others were rejecting the resolutions.

Speaking of the use of police dogs for nabbing smugglers, the official said most countries throughout the world were using them for detecting contraband. He said that he personally supported this, clarifying that the use of police dogs will save manpower and equipment. He commented that police dogs proved the best way for detecting smuggling operations and crimes.



Market awash with truffles

## Rush on for seasons truffles

### Kuwaiti truffle best

CUSTOMERS have been rushing in increasing numbers to the Kuwait Vegetables and Fruits Market to purchase Saudi and Iraqi varieties of truffles in the price range of KD 5-6 per kilogramme of large truffles and KD 2-4 per kilogramme for the smaller variety.

A local daily toured the truffles market in Kuwait and interviewed a number of truffles dealers who talked about truffles sales and the types available in the market.

Hadri Jasser said that they sell large amounts of this commodity to both residents and other salesmen. The price of a barrel of truffles is about KD27. Truffles are in high demand due to their nutritional value and distinct taste.

Khaled Al Shar'a a truffles wholesaler said that on an average eight kilogrammes of truffles sold around KD20-22 and said that Kuwaitis are the biggest purchasers. He said prices depend on weather conditions and said that the prices generally tend to rise if there are rains from Oct 25 to Nov 25.

### Favoured

He said that truffles include Zobeidi, Ashal, Asseera and Debdeta, with the first variety being the favoured. He said that though the Kuwaiti truffle is the best variety, unfortunately these are not available due to the truffle pastures being run over by vehicles.

He said that unlike Kuwait, Saudi Arabia gives all protection to areas that are supposed to have truffles and consequently these are being purchased in large quantities by Kuwaitis.

Most truffle dealers at the market separate truffles according to size when purchasing large quantities. Truffles depend on rain and based on the weather, most truffle dealers predict that prices will decrease during the coming weeks. This is due to the expectation of Syrian truffles in the market. They added that the truffle season will continue during the holy month of Ramadan this year.

## Ideal drivers honoured at KPTC

UNDER the auspices of the chairman and managing director of Kuwait Public Transport Company (KPTC) Abdulwahhab Al Haroun a celebration was held yesterday to honour ideal drivers of the company, a local daily reported. It added that the celebration was held to mark the GCC Unified Traffic Week which was attended by the Director General of Traffic Department Brigadier Abdulhameed Al Hajji and a number of officials from the General Traffic Department and KPTC.

Haroun in a speech on the occasion confirmed that the company is playing a significant role in streamlining the traffic process in the country which resulted eventually in minimizing traffic accidents.

He disclosed that the company possesses an overland fleet consisting of about 2450 buses with 657 serving locally within a network comprising 37 routes connecting all the country's areas.

## MONTH'S MIND



FELIX DIAS

Expired in Bangalore on 4.2.90. Mass will be held at the Holy Family Cathedral on Wednesday 7th March at 5.30 p.m.

Offered by Roy & Fern Dias Jeanette & Charles D'Souza





Arafat visits Malaysia

Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman Yasser Arafat (shown above) arrived in Kuala Lumpur Monday for a three-day visit, and Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad (shown right) met him at the airport. Also greeting Arafat at the airport were Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar and Raja Ariffin Raja Suleiman, deputy minister in the prime minister's department. Arafat was to hold talks with Mahathir and have an audience with the

Yang Di-Pertuan Agong (king), Sultan Azlan Shah, a Foreign Ministry official said.

The Palestinian leader visited Malaysia for the first time in July 1984. Malaysia which supports the Palestinians in their fight against Israel, has recognised the Palestine state declared by the Palestine National Council in November 1988. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Iran move for release of Western hostages

Secret talks: Anderson may be freed by March 16

BEIRUT, March 5. (Agencies): Two Iranian government envoys paid an unannounced visit to Muslim West Beirut amid persistent reports of secret negotiations between Tehran and Washington aimed at securing the release of Western hostages in Lebanon.

Security sources in Beirut say at least one American hostage, the talks.

An Iranian embassy spokesman denied speculation by Western diplomatic sources the Iranian envoys were on a mission to help free some of the 17 hostages including eight Americans, who are believed held by Muslim extremist groups loyal to Iran.

He said the visit took place last week and involved talks with Lebanese leaders on ways Iran could providing financial aid to the war-ravaged country.

A British newspaper, the Independent on Sunday, also reported that Iranian officials had arrived in Beirut to organise the release of one or more of the hostages. It quoted Lebanese and Iranian exile sources in London and Paris.

President George Bush has denied the United States was engaged in secret hostage negotiations with Tehran, but Iranian and Lebanese political sources have maintained that Tehran and Washington have had direct contacts in Europe on the captives.

An Iranian source close to senior government officials told Reuters in Dubai yesterday that Iranian and US negotiators met four or five times for talks in West Germany on the hostages and were hopeful they would meet again soon. He said the Iranian team was led by a high-level Iranian Foreign Ministry official.

The Lebanese official sources said that Mahmoud Hashemi, director of the Middle East department at the Iranian Foreign Ministry, and Iranian ambassador to Syria Mahmoud Akhtari had come to Beirut from Syria.

Syrian government sources in Damascus said Hashemi earlier yesterday met Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara and gave him a message from Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati which dealt "with issues of mutual concern."

Diplomats said Hashemi's talks also dealt with preparations for a visit to Iran by Shara. Damascus is the main power broker in Lebanon, with about

Terry Anderson, may be released by March 16, the fifth anniversary of his abduction.

Lebanese official sources today said Mahmoud Hashemi, brother of President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, and Iran's ambassador to Syria met Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim leaders during a brief, secretive visit yesterday. They had no details of



Anderson: hope



Mahmoud Hashemi, brother of Iranian President (left) during talks with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara in Damascus yesterday.

40,000 Syrian troops stationed in the country, and most Western hostages who have been released by their captives in Lebanon have left by way of Damascus.

Shi'ite sources in Lebanon say all contacts between Iran and Hizbollah are made through the Iranian embassy in Damascus.

Iran hacks the Hizbollah (Party of God) Muslim extremist groups which is believed, despite its repeated denials, to be holding most of the Western hostages in Iran.

Peggy Say, sister of Anderson, the former bureau chief in Beirut of the news agency Associated

Press, says Shara told her during a meeting in Damascus last month that he would visit Iran to press for her brother's release.

The independent said the secret talks had been held between Iranian representatives and former US government officials, including former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

Vice-President Dan Quayle, reiterating denials made by Bush on Thursday, said on US television yesterday: "We're not using Vance to negotiate the release of the hostages. We're not using anyone to negotiate on a quid pro quo basis with Iran."

According to London newspaper, leading Iranian figures and US officials, including Vance, have already held secret talks in Geneva, Muscat, Oman and Ankara.

"The Americans involved were careful not to have contacts with present officials in Washington," the Independent said.

Vance was secretary of state when Iranian radicals seized the US embassy in Tehran and its occupants in November 1979. The ordeal ended in January 1981 with the release of the remaining 52 American hostages.

Palestinians reiterate mandate to PLO

## Shamir rejects US pressure

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 5. (Agencies): Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir rejected domestic and US pressure for a quick decision on opening historic talks with Palestinians.

Cabinet ministers of Shamir's rightist Likud Party rebelled publicly against a US call for Israel finally to decide, and leaders of its Labour coalition partners were split on whether to extend a Wednesday deadline they set for a decision.

"We are discussing now these proposals and these plans concerning our peace process, and after we will end all these discussions we will take a decision," Shamir told reporters yesterday.

"It is hard to say if it will be this week or later. These are very important, serious matters and it's impossible to decide on them under time pressure," he said. "In any case there is no desire to postpone a decision."

Shamir's comments and the open battle inside Likud undermined earlier reports that the prime minister was ready to approve Israeli-Palestinian talks in Cairo on implementing his initiative for elections in the occupied territories.

Labour Party leader Shimon Peres insisted the government decide on its response to the US proposals by Wednesday, but Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said the decision could wait until early next week.

In remarks bound to further strain relations with the United States, Shamir said the government would direct Soviet Jewish immigrants to Jerusalem, including Israeli-annexed East Jerusalem. The United States opposes such a policy.

Without mentioning his name, Shamir criticised President George Bush for saying there should be no new settlements in East Jerusalem, captured in the 1967 Middle East war.

Meanwhile, leading Palestinians in the occupied territories



Shamir and Peres (right) attend a memorial service for former Israeli prime minister Levy Eshkol. (Reuters wirephoto)

said today that only the PLO could form a Palestinian delegation for proposed peace talks with Israel.

"A statement signed by 34 nationalists, living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip accused Israel of trying to undermine the legitimacy of the Palestine Liberation Organisation."

"The PLO alone has the right both to form and to announce any Palestinian delegation to the peace dialogue," said the

statement delivered to Reuters. It was the first formal response by Palestinians since the US last week demanded a swift Israeli answer to its proposal for peace talks in Cairo.

Signatories included nationalist leader Faisal Al Hussein, Palestinian Journalists' Union head Radwan Abu Ayash, former Bir Zeit University philosophy professor Sari Nusseibeh, newspaper editor Hanna Seniora and other well-known intellectuals.

A government official added the king was to hold similar talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Last week, Hussein toured Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates to brief their leaders on the outcome of an Arab Co-operation Council summit held in Amman on Feb 24.

That summit of leaders from Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen denounced efforts to settle new Soviet immigrants in the occupied territories.

UN meet on Jews influx likely

## Arab panel puts off trips

KUALA LUMPUR, March 5. (Agencies): Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat said today the UN Security Council was likely to meet this month to discuss a current wave of Soviet Jewish immigrants settling in Israeli-occupied territories.

The Manama-based Gulf News Agency (GNA) reported today that Arab foreign ministers have postponed planned visits to Moscow, Washington and Paris to discuss Soviet immigration to Israel, until the forthcoming meeting of the Arab League.

A senior Malaysian Foreign Ministry official said Arafat told Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad moves were under way to hold an emergency council session in New York.

"Arafat believes a meeting would likely be held some time mid or later this month," said Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Ahmad Kamil Jaafar, briefing reporters on talks between the two leaders.

Diplomatic sources said the talks were being proposed by the Soviet Union in consultation with the Arab states.

Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), arrived in Kuala Lumpur today for a three-day visit.

Arafat, the PLO and the United States, Israel's closest ally, have objected to Soviet Jewish immigrants settling in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Arafat said he believed that the Soviet Jews would rather be settled in the United States than be moved to Israel," Kamil said.

The future of the occupied territories, home to more than 1.75 million Palestinians, is the centre of the US efforts to convene Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

Mainly-Muslim Malaysia has long been a supporter of the PLO. It was one of the first countries to recognise Palestine as a state and in January last year elevated the status of the PLO office in Kuala Lumpur to embassy.

GNA, monitored in Kuwait, quoted Iraqi sources in Baghdad to say that "the postponement decision was taken because of several commitments by the foreign ministers, and the need to agree on a new plan."

Four Arab foreign ministers, in addition to the secretary-general of the Arab League, were due to leave for Moscow today to discuss with Kremlin leaders the issue of Soviet Jewish migration to Israel, and the implications of such a migration on current Mideast peace efforts.

The Iraqi sources said Arabs would centre their efforts on the coming stage of deliberations at the UN Security Council, where Soviet migration to Israel is expected to be discussed.

### MIDEAST BRIEFS

#### 4 killed in Kabul

ISLAMABAD, March 5. (UPI): US-backed Afghan rebels bombed Kabul with rockets yesterday, killing four people and wounding seven others, state-run Kabul radio said.

The radio said the shells also caused damage to property in the city, which has suffered under near daily rocket barrages since last summer that the government says have left hundreds dead and wounded and cost the rebels much goodwill among the civilian population.

#### 1,000 troops killed

NAIROBI, March 5. (Reuters): Ethiopian rebels killed over a thousand government soldiers and captured the town of Addis Zemen, east of Lake Tana, 400 km (250 miles) north of Addis Ababa, their clandestine radio station, monitored here, said yesterday.

The radio said the army of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) had "crushed" government troops stationed in Addis Zemen "putting the town under its control on Friday."

#### Denktash may quit

NICOSIA, March 5. (Reuters): Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash says he might resign to test his popularity following the breakdown of reunification talks with Greek-Cypriots.

#### Red Army's arms package to PFLP

TOKYO, March 5. (Reuters): Japan's extremist Red Army may be trying to strengthen links with a Palestinian commando group linked by the media to the 1988 bombing of a Pan American World Airways jet over Scotland, a Japanese newspaper said today. Yomiuri Shimbun, quoting Japanese police and security authorities, said a Red Army member delivered a package of explosives last year to a high-ranking member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command.

It identified the Japanese man as Masao Adachi, 50, and said the handover took place on a street in the Hungarian capital.

Police declined comment on the report but Yomiuri quoted its sources as saying Adachi may have offered the explosives to strengthen ties between the

#### Woman found guilty

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 5. (UPI): A recent immigrant to Israel from Yugoslavia was found guilty today of spying for the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Israel radio reported.

Victoria David, 34, plead guilty to charges of giving information to the enemy, making contact with an illegal organisation, and membership in an illegal organisation, the radio reported.

#### Postpones verdict

KHARTOUM, March 5. (Reuters): A Sudanese court has postponed a decision on the fate of five Palestinians sentenced to death for killing five Britons and two Sudanese in 1988, sources monitoring the case said today.

They said the high court met yesterday and decided to adjourn to March 21 while they considered the views of the relatives of the British victims.

#### Dental records

CAIRO, March 5. (UPI): Egyptian forensic scientists are awaiting the dental records of two Americans killed during a Thursday blaze at a five-star Cairo hotel, to determine their identities, the Interior Ministry said today.

In a separate development, Cairo's government-supervised newspapers carried excerpts of a preliminary Interior Ministry report which blamed inadequate fire precautions for the high death toll in the fire.

#### Cairo hotel fire

CAIRO, March 5. (AP): A tourism official said today the canvas tent where a devastating fire ignited and burned down a luxury hotel was legal but that similar tents in other hotels are being reviewed for safety.

Hamdy Al Shamy, an under-secretary at the Tourism Ministry, told reporters the Egyptian and Kuwaiti owners had decided to rebuild the hotel immediately.

## Rafsanjani 'champion' of the poor

NICOSIA, March 5. (AP): Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani today portrayed himself as the champion of the poor and said the funds of a major welfare organisation designed to help "the deprived" have been misused.

In what was seen as a public admission of rampant corruption, Rafsanjani told officials of the Imam Khomeini welfare committee, a multi-million-dollar organisation, that its funds have "not been distributed justly among the deprived."

"Sometimes resources for the deprived have been used by the non-deprived," he said.

Tehran Radio, quoted Rafsanjani as telling the officials: "Your duty is to see that these means are distributed justly."

Rafsanjani did not elaborate. But last October, the former head of another major welfare organisation, the Nabavard Foundation, was sentenced to death by an Islamic court for embezzling millions of dollars of its funds. Corruption is believed to be widespread in Iran's bloated bureaucracy.

## Saddam's gift to Hussein

AMMAN, March 5. (Reuters): Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has presented his Jordanian hosts with 40 cars including a Rolls Royce to repay their hospitality at a one-day Arab Co-operation Council summit in Amman last month.

Government sources said King Hussein, known for his love of automobiles, received a Rolls Royce, while his two eldest sons, Abdullah and Faisal, got Porsche sports cars.

The Iraqi leader gave about 40 cars, ranging from Mercedes 500s to Toyota super saloons in palace officials, government ministers and others who played an active part in the summit.

Cars also went to three Jordanians who wrote poems in his honour, Abdul Rahim Omar, Khaled Mahadeen and Haidar Mahmood.

President Hussein's generosity did not stop there. Lesser fry received gold watches with his portrait on the face.

When he is at home the Iraqi President often marks national occasions with gifts of cars, watches or cash to senior government officials, army officers and Baath Party leaders.

## Hussein leaves for Paris to muster support against Jewish exodus

AMMAN, March 5. (Agencies): King Hussein, spearheading Arab protests against a flood of Soviet Jewish immigrants to Israel, left for France today to try to rally Western support.

Officials said the king, due to go to London on Wednesday, wanted backing for the Arab view that the influx could destabilise the Middle East.

King Hussein is current president of the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC), which also groups Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen.

An ACC summit in Amman last month denounced Soviet Jewish migration to Israel as an "open aggression against the rights of the Arab people and a threat to the Arab order and current Middle East peace efforts."

Up to 100,000 Soviet Jews are expected in Israel this year and several hundred have

settled in the Israeli-held West Bank. Amman fears the newcomers could eventually displace Palestinians and force them into exile across the Jordan river.

King Hussein, who has called for an emergency Arab summit to discuss the influx and other Middle Eastern issues, is worried by Israeli right-wingers who argue that Jordan should be the homeland for Palestinians.

"France, a leader of the European Economic Community (EEC), has taken many stands that were very close to Arab positions in recent years," said a Jordanian official who asked not to be named.

"We hope Paris can help us minimise the dangers of this migration, which will affect not only Jordan but all the Arab countries."

Officials said Hussein, accompanied by Royal Court chief Sharif Zeid Bin Shaker

and Foreign Minister Marwan Qassem, would meet President Francois Mitterrand, Prime Minister Michel Rocard, Foreign Minister Roland Dumas and Defence Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement.

The EEC said in January Israeli settlements in the occupied territories were illegal and voiced serious concern at the possible settlement of Soviet Jews in the West Bank and Gaza.

It said last month it welcomed the freedom given to Soviet Jews to emigrate but they should not do so at the expense of Palestinian rights.

France and Britain, with the United States, the Soviet Union and China, are permanent members of the UN Security Council, which is to debate the issue this month at Moscow's request.

Officials said King Hussein was con-

sidering a trip to Washington next month to press his case.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir last week accused Jordan of leading a hysterical Arab campaign.

"Anyone who damages this aliyah (immigration) cannot be regarded as a candidate for peace with us," he said.

A government official added the king was to hold similar talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Last week, Hussein toured Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates to brief their leaders on the outcome of an Arab Co-operation Council summit held in Amman on Feb 24.

That summit of leaders from Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen denounced efforts to settle new Soviet immigrants in the occupied territories.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page, possibly a signature or note.



# Lincoln Town car — changed but not changed

DETROIT, (UPI): "Give us an all new Lincoln Town car but don't change a thing."

That, in essence, was the message given to Ford by buyers as set out to redesign its largest and most luxurious car for the first time in 10 years.

The result is the 1990 Lincoln Town car, one of the most luxurious if not the biggest sedans offered on this planet. Only it is quieter, roomier, and slightly more sophisticated than its predecessor.

It is also more expensive, ranging from \$27,986 for the "base" model, to \$32,809 for the cushy Cartier version. In between is the signature series Sedan, which begins at \$30,721.

Although its 150-horsepower 5.0 liter V8 and rear-drive layout is carried over from last year, the 1990 town car is 75 per cent all-new.

Its body, for instance, is more than just the old version with its crisp corners sanded smooth. Shaped by many hours of wind tunnel testing, it has doors that wrap into its roofline and plastic cladding that encircles its lower body.

Also new on all Town cars are supplemental air bags for both the driver and front passenger. But anti-lock brakes found as standard in most luxury cars are

For each car written about in his weekly roadtalk column, UPI auto writer Jan Zaverina test drives the vehicle for up to one week, covering between 250 and 500 miles on city and rural roads.

Borrowed for this review was a Cartier edition Town car finished in a lustrous silver. (Ford prefers to call it Titanium, which is more befitting a car like this.)

It cost \$34,753 as tested, counting the anti-lock brakes, electrically heated windshield (253), self-dimming rearview mirror (99) and a \$555 destination fee.

Driving the 268 miles (431 km) from downtown Chicago to Detroit left this writer with mixed impressions about Ford's newest luxury car, which Motor Trend magazine named its 1990 car of the year.

If Ford's mission was to preserve the living room interior, vault-like quietness and squishy big car airride that have long been Lincoln hallmarks, it has been accomplished in spades.

The Town car's interior — this car still seats six in true comfort — looks more like a furniture showroom, with its sumptuous leather and ribbed velour seats and simulated wood planking across its dash to appease traditional buyers.

Instrumentation consists of a large digital readout for the speedometer, bar graphs for engine temperature and fuel, and a trip computer that helps one count down the miles to the next gas station.

In this case the next fill-up was 310 miles (500 km) away, based on an observed freeway consumption of 17.2 mpg (9 km/l) despite EPA ratings of 17 (9) city and 24 mpg (12 km/l) highway.

The most noticeable under-the-skin improvement is a new speed-sensitive power steering system that gradually increases wheel effort with vehicle speed to give the town car a more responsive highway feel.

It is a marked improvement from earlier Town cars, which required a steady hand to keep them from wandering the width of the interstate.

This 4,100-pound sedan positively glides over rough pavement. Its interior is whisper quiet, even at 65 mph and in a buffeting crosswind.

In fact it probably has the most hushed

ride of any car ever tested by this writer. But the Town car is by no means a driver's car.

While there is less slack thanks to the tighter steering, it still numbs too much road feel, and its seats are still unsupportive and la-z-boy soft.

But this is exactly what buyers of big cars still want, according to Ford, which sought to reach the best compromise between smooth ride and responsive handling without alienating the typical Town car buyer — a 60-year-old male who earns \$59,000 a year.

Maybe it's time to re-educate drivers about how a car should ride and respond, and convince all buyers that the true measure of a good car is not only how well it insulates one from the outside world.

Ford is just the carmaker to do it, and probably could have gone a few more degrees in tightening the Town car's ride.

After all, its front-drive Ford Taurus and Mercury Sable, considered the most important new American cars of the 1980s, went further than any other automobiles in redefining what a mid-sized sedan is.

And the current Continental that bowed for 1988 with a more European flavour also helped buyers redefine their ideas about what a luxury car should be, as Lincoln's ads say.

# Real-life Bond was as adventurous as 007

Sex, drama and adventure... that was the story of Ian Fleming, the man who created 007. Now, as the £3 million TV movie *Golden Eye* is made about Fleming's turbulent life, one of his ex-lovers confesses: "He was restless and could never be trapped."

A COMMA of thick, black hair tumbled across the tall brow of the suave, saturnine individual with the cruel smile.

That was the description thriller-writer Ian Fleming gave his invincible character James Bond, Agent 007 of the British Secret Service.

But there was more than one woman in Fleming's own packed love life who felt that it applied equally to Bond's creator himself.

One of the many mistresses of swashbuckling Old Etonian Ian Lancaster Fleming once declared: "There was something of the wild animal about Ian — something restless, uncaged and couldn't be trapped."

And, it can be added, there was more than a touch of James Bond panache in Fleming's own action-filled lifestyle — all due to be brought to the screen in a £3 million TV film called "Golden Eye" in which charismatic Charles Dance gets the leading role not of his hero James Bond, but of the dashing, womanising author and intelligence man Ian Fleming.

Goldeneye was the name Ian Fleming gave his personally designed luxury home at Oracabessa ("bead of gold"), snuggling exotically on Jamaica's sun-kissed north shore.

Here, on extended holidays from his job as a senior publishing executive, he spent just three hours a day between an early morning swim and an afternoon sleep pounding out 12 James Bond novels in 11 years on a custom-built gold-plated typewriter, specially imported from the Royal typewriter company in New York.

The first of the Bond stories, "Casino Royale," published in 1953, pitched James Bond into conflict with fat, slug-like, criminal gambler Le Chiffre whose villains sought to emasculate 007 with a carving-knife and carpet beater.

At the age of 43, Fleming, tapping out "Casino Royale" at the rate of 2,000 words a day in his luxuriously scented garden at Goldeneye, trailed his imagination to recall the days when he himself led a life which often closely resembled James Bond's.

From Room 39, a large, uncomfortable, mid-19th century Whitehall Office, with its cast-iron radiators and murky cream walls, Royal Naval Lieutenant (speedily to be promoted Commander) Ian Fleming each afternoon and night had conducted his own highly individual war against Nazi Germany.

## Cover

During weekday mornings his cover was a dark-suited bowler-hatted junior partner in the City of London stockbroking firm of Rowe & Pitman. But, during the course of a high-level meeting in London's West End with dapper, bearded Rear Admiral John Godfrey, Director of Naval Intelligence at the Admiralty, a new role was mapped out for him.

One of his Whitehall colleagues of the time recalled: "Ian was talent-spotted as a born organiser. He could fix anything.

He also, incidentally, had a talent for mischief."

Admiral Godfrey, from behind the green-baize door in adjacent Room 38, had some very special mischief for Ian Fleming.

During the course of the German invasion of the island of Crete in May 1941, a detachment of Reichsmarschall Hermann Goering's crack 14th Airborne Division had peeled off from the main offensive and sped to the British headquarters at Maleme and Heraklion with one overall objective — to seize as much British secret material as possible.

Into the hands of the new-style intelligence commando fell maps, divisional orders, codes and equipment.

Ian Fleming vowed a spectacular revenge. He would launch his own British version intelligence commando. By the beginning of 1942, he had successfully created No. 30 Assault Unit — unofficially dubbed "My Red Indians."

Fleming hustled his knot of tough, hand-picked Royal Marines to a top-secret training base for instruction in safe-blowing, lock-picking and breaking and entering. With the at-first reluctant backing of his startled Admiralty masters, then with their enthusiastic co-operation, Fleming next swept his embryo private army on to intensive training at a remote, English country house for a course in the uses of explosives, boobytraps, mines and small-arms weapons.

## Sessions

Fleming himself recalled after the war: "That was just the beginning, the rough stuff. I set up study sessions devoted to the recognition and capture of the treasure trove of modern war — ciphers, codebooks, intelligence reports, secret orders, new weapons, radar sets."

The talents of No. 30 Assault Unit were finally triggered on November 8, 1942 when a vast Anglo-American invasion fleet steamed towards Algiers. Abroad HMS Sheffield was 30 ASU on its first active mission...

The men wore the uniforms of American GIs and the caps of British naval officers. Fleming's "Red Indians" debouched at Sidi Ferruch, west of Algiers and it was here that the months of training paid off. Surprised by the invasion, the entrenched Italians had neglected to destroy their files or bury their code books — 30 ASU ransacked the entire headquarters.

Within hours, the invaluable loot was on its way, top priority, to Gibraltar to be flown to Room 39 of the Admiralty in London. The spy-master and sole begetter of No. 30 Assault Unit, he conceived a daring scheme worthy of James Bond. The haul from Algiers was nothing less than sensational — current Italian and German ciphers, together with the enemy fleet's order of battle.

But for Ian Fleming, being a mere mastermind of intelligence coups was not enough. He began to equip himself for personal assignments. First acquisition was a small commando fighting knife, engraved with his name



Ian Fleming working at his home at Golden Eye, Jamaica



Bond's creator writer Ian Fleming, dressed in a bow-tie and overcoat

and rank along the blade. He also armed himself with a fountain pen capable of carrying a cyanide cartridge or ejecting a sizeable cloud of tear gas.

Both the knife and the pen snuggled inside the smart blue civilian suit Ian Fleming wore with his old Etonian tie when he flew to the United States on a crucial mission — to establish closer relations between British and US naval intelligence.

## Action

Fleming was determined that this should not just be done over a desk — he wanted a personal assignment...

As it turned out, the assignment chosen was to provide him, by then basking in the Jamaican sun, 11 years later, with an action-packed passage for "Casino Royale."

James Bond was to target a Japanese cipher expert who had been cracking British and American codes on the 36th floor of the RCA building in New York's Rockefeller Center where the Japanese had their consulate.

Bond, and a colleague with a couple of Remington 33 rifles, telescopic sights and silencers,

stationed themselves on the 40th floor of a skyscraper opposite.

Bond's aide shot at the man first. In "Casino Royale," Bond explained: "His job was only to blast a hole through the window so that I could shoot the Jap through it...I shot immediately after him through the hole he had made. I got the Jap in the mouth as he turned to gape at the broken window."

Ian Fleming and James Bond had become one and had shared a single experience even if Fleming did admit later that he did not carry out this actual killing.

Amid the orange, lemon and grapefruit trees of Goldeneye, Ian Fleming cast James Bond in the role of the killer.

Real-life was to come to Fleming's aid yet again in a description of a long-underwater swim forced on Bond in "Live and Let Die" when 007 is called upon to fix a limpet mine beneath the villain's boat Secatur.

American Secret Service. Fleming learnt something of how to survive with nothing except his wit and the clothes he stood up in.

He later claimed to have received his highest marks on the underwater exercise. A derelict tanker moored on the lake was used for limpet mine instruction. The final test came at night with a long-under-water swim...

## Lifestyle

Even as he approached middle-age, with the growing success of James Bond, Ian Fleming strove rigidly to apply the 007 lifestyle.

Ian Fleming, like James Bond, liked big martinis. Both men smoked the same number of cigarettes a day. They wore the same clothes — black moccasin-style shoes, dark-blue Sea Island cotton shirts, lightweight blue suits.

Both loved scrambled eggs, sauce Bernaise, and gunmetal cigarette cases, double helpings of coffee and orange juice at breakfast.

Both Fleming and Bond scorched up the roads of Britain and Jamaica in either a Thunderbird or a 4 1/2-litre Bentley complete with Amherst Villiers supercharger.

And the hectic Bond-style sex-life continued. Fleming's wife, Annie, formerly married to newspaper owner Lord Rothermere and one of Britain's leading British post-war socialites, commented ruefully: "It is astonishing that I cannot be in any capital of the world for more than a day without meeting some woman with whom you have had carnal relations."

But inevitably the martinis and the vodkas and the 30-a-day Morland cigarettes with the gold ring began to take their tolls. With the success of bond — sales topping more than 40 million, the Sean Connery films rolling — Ian Fleming's health went into sharp decline. On 12 August 1964, at the age of 56, he had the gigantic haemorrhage which killed him.

Could Ian Fleming really have made it as James Bond...

During the Oshawa training on his American trip, his instructor had ordered: "Behind that door is a man. Your gun is loaded. Open that door, draw fast and shoot straight."

Ian Fleming claimed to have got as far as the landing where he waited a long time. Then he gave up and went away. Later he was to explain: "I just couldn't open that door. I couldn't kill a man that way."



(L-R) Glenn Close, James Woods, Mary Stuart Masterson and Kevin Dillon in Immediate Family

# Close encounter with baby blues

GLENN CLOSE chilled audiences from New York to Newcastle with her portrayal of the gimlet-eyed, knife-wielding psychopath in *Fatal Attraction*.

But in her latest film she changes her image to play a gentle married woman yearning for a baby.

*Immediate Family* is the bitter-sweet story of Linda (Close) and Michael Spector (James Woods), a couple in their thirties who long for a child of their own. Sadly, that is the one thing they cannot have.

Help comes from the unlikely source of a pregnant teenager and her boyfriend who decided the Spectors offer their baby its best chance of happiness. The strong and unusual relationship which develops between the four will leave not a dry eye in the house.

The film touches a chord with many couples, who, having waited to start families, suddenly discover they cannot reproduce to order.

Glenn Close understands their plight. "I know several people who have gone through the same upheaval," she says. "I think it is a very relevant experience that people will identify with."

As a mother, the actress feels great empathy for the torment her character experiences in *Immediate Family*. "Your family becomes very precious to you. Mine is the most important thing in my life, and it's a day-to-day gift."

The versatile and strikingly attractive star has won ecstatic

For Glenn Close, motherhood is the less-than-fatal attraction in her latest movie, a weepie that provides a welcome change of pace for the star who was in danger of being typecast as a ruthless manipulator

reviews for almost every performance she has given. The winner of a Tony award for her role in Tom Stoppard's play *The Real Thing*, she also boasts five Academy Award nominations.

One of these was for her bravura performance as the terrifying Alex in *Fatal Attraction*, another for her ruthless, sexually-manipulating Countess in *Dangerous Liaisons*.

Close felt that, after playing two such unsympathetic characters, she was in danger of being typecast as a "bitch", so she was delighted to stretch her talents in a different direction with her new film.

"I had just finished playing two very complicated women on the negative side of life," she says, "I wanted to get back to someone more positive."

Her co-star in *Immediate Family* is the highly-respected James Woods, his cadaverous features have brought him his fair share of villainous roles (he was a crazed cop killer in *The Onion Field*), but in reality he claims to be a big softie.

Describing his character Michael Spector, Woods says "I

like his gentleness and the fact that he is also a bit of a comedian.

"Linda and Michael are both brave people who handle their pain in two different ways. Linda does it through a quiet dignity, and Michael through a caring flippancy. He's a sort of cheerleader character, so when he does let his guard down it's rather touching."

The other male lead of *Immediate Family* is Kevin Dillon, the younger brother of Brat Pack heart-throb Matt. He plays the happy-go-lucky Sam, boyfriend of pregnant Lucy (Mary Stuart Masterson), a role he felt he was made for.

He admits: "I fell in love with the script right off the bat. I thought it was perfect for me. I'm a lot like Sam, although I've had it a little easier than he has."

"He's a sweet guy and he's got a big heart. No matter what happens, he'll stick with his girlfriend until the end."

Dillon is hoping *Immediate Family* will launch him into the big league after his steady rise through box-office hits like *The Blob* and *Platoon*.

But, no matter how famous he becomes, his own immediate family will keep him in check. "They have always helped me to keep my head on straight, and they're the first ones to knock it off if I start acting like a movie star," he laughs.

The film is set to make a big impact with its honest, touching and often very funny look at the emotions aroused by that one four-letter word — "baby".

# What's new on the home video scene in US

Reviews by Jack El Wilkinson

**ROMERO** A powerful drama of nine men's struggle against brutal oppression. It tells the story of Oscar Romero, a soft-spoken man whose voice rose like thunder against the insanity that gripped his nation. Raul Julia gives a masterful performance as Romero, named Archbishop of El Salvador in 1977 on the assumption that this mild-mannered priest would not rock the boat, keep the church a stabilising influence — and in no way challenge the government. But, those who openly sought free elections or better living conditions were being kidnapped and slaughtered by a military regime dedicated to protecting a wealthy minority. When an activist priest, a close friend, is killed, a shattered Romero ignores advice from fellow clergymen and begins boldly speaking out against the tyranny. "Someone has to have the courage to say 'enough'," he tells his people. His voice is now the one everyone is hearing, even his enemies who decide they, too, must say "enough" after he urges the US to stop sending arms to El Salvador. While saying mass on a March day in 1980, Archbishop Romero is assassinated. 1989. 105 minutes. Vidmark Entertainment. Rated PG-13. \$89.95.

**Halloween 5: The Revenge of Michael Myers** Here it is another Halloween and not much has changed over the years at Haddonville. Not much has changed in this indeterminate series either. The indestructible friend Michael Myers has escaped from his mineshaft tomb and has returned to further trim back the population while the police, as usual, pay no mind to the frantic, doomsday ramblings of Dr. Loomis (Donald Pleasence) until the body count soars. Michael is after his young niece Jamie (Danielle Harris), a traumatised survivor from the previous episode who, in between numerous screaming fits, helps Loomis set a trap for her unearthly uncle. Spooky at times, but generally just more variations on a well-worn theme. 1989. 93 minutes. CBS/Fox Video. Rated R. \$89.98.

**The Phantom of the Opera** Robert Englund, best known as Freddy Krueger, plays the mad, disfigured composer in the fifth filmed remake of Gaston Leroux's grand Guignol drama. At times, the two characters seem to overlap, a sort of "nightmare at the opera." A broad and brutal departure from the novel, this version, set in London instead of Paris, tells the familiar tale of the deranged "phantom" obsessed with a young soprano (Jill Schoelen), whom he tutors to stardom and goes to murderous lengths to protect, determined to make her his bride. On its own, an atmospheric monster fantasy. 1989. 93 minutes. RCA/Columbia pictures Home Video. Rated R. \$89.95.

**Good-bye, My Lady** — a poignant, easy-going story about a boy and a remarkable dog. Originally released in 1956 and making its home video debut, the film tells of a Mississippi

swamp boy named Skeeter (Brandin D'Ufford) who finds and trains a lost dog, which in turn brings joy to the lives of Skeeter and his crusty uncle (Walter Brennan). The real star is a wide-eyed basset pui, an African hunting dog who doesn't bark but can cry — with tears. 1956. 95 minutes. Warner Home Video. No MPA rating. \$59.95.

**Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade** and **Lethal Weapon II** have forged ahead among the nation's video movie lovers, according to Billboard magazine. *Indiana* and *Lethal* are running 1-2 in videocassette rentals with the order reversed in sales...the much-discussed *Sex, Lies and Videotape* is due on home video April 25, from RCA/Columbia. Look for *My Left Foot* (HBO) and *Muscle Box* (RCA/Columbia) in June.

Criticised for colouring such classics as *Casablanca*, Ted Turner can only be commended for keeping alive many of the old classics like *Top Hat* (1935), quite possibly the best thing Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers ever did. Now being re-issued with 16 other vintage RKO films by Turner Home Entertainment, *Top Hat* is still top notch, a bright, knockout musical collaboration of Irving Berlin tunes and Astaire-Rogers magic. Other reissues include three more Astaire-Rogers hits, a couple of early Frank Sinatra films and *A Damsel in Distress* (1937) teaming Astaire, George Burns, Gracie Allen and Gershwin.



## EDITORIALS

## ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE world will never have lasting peace so long as men reserve for war the finest human qualities — John Foster Dulles, secretary of state under president Dwight Eisenhower.

## Subordinates grumble Baker thrives on secrecy

WASHINGTON, (AP): A State Department official assigned to monitor dealings with a certain country heard rumours recently that his boss, Secretary of State James A. Baker, was going to visit that country. Unable to confirm the rumours through official channels, the official hit the idea of asking the department's pool of interpreters if they had seen correspondence to the capital in question.

Voila. They had seen enough to confirm his suspicions. His play was one of many ingenious methods devised by department aides frustrated by lack of access to Baker and a coterie of senior advisers who have held the reins of US foreign policy for the past 13 months.

## Private

Not since the Henry Kissinger era in the 1970s has decision making been such a private affair among a handful of officials on the seventh floor of the cavernous State Department building.

Baker, a Texas attorney whose personal and political bonds with President George Bush date back 20 years, prizes secrecy and direct telephone diplomacy with foreign leaders is not unusual. "He believes that's the best way of doing things," said an aide familiar with Baker's style. "You can't deal with delicate issues in a broad circle. Leaks endanger success."

Access to Baker is a rare and valued commodity at foggy bottom. One of the half-dozen or so officials with easy access is department spokesman Margaret Tutwiler. She was also his spokeswoman when he was Treasury Secretary under former President Ronald Reagan and she worked for Bush in his unsuccessful 1980 presidential campaign.

In her first briefing to the State Department press corps last February, Tutwiler apologized for her limited knowledge of foreign affairs. But she added, "I do know this president and this secretary of state very well."

For those out of the loop, especially officials who served under Baker's predecessor, George Shultz, the adjustment has been difficult.

## Complaints

Many are awaiting assignments that will take them abroad — and possibly into jobs with less frustration. But for those whose careers will keep them here for several years, disgruntlement is running high.

None of the officials interviewed agreed to have their names used, but their complaints were uniform.

Shultz, an economic professor who has returned to university life, chose his close aides from the ranks of the career foreign service and relied on senior bureaucrats to help shape policy.

Baker, who brought all his aides with him from outside the department, is "his own point man on most major issues," said one senior service officer.

## Daily suggests US- Iran release deal

NICOSIA, Cyprus, (AP): A Tehran daily suggested Saturday that two Americans jailed in Iran could be freed if Washington agreed to release three American Muslims imprisoned in the United States.

The English-language Kayhan International said the mutual release could come after the release of Western hostages held in Lebanon as a step toward "improved ties" between Washington and Tehran in the "post-hostage era."

The paper's mentions of a "post-hostage" era was the latest in a series of recent indications from Iran and Shiite Muslim militants in Lebanon that Western captives held in Lebanon could be released.

There are 18 Westerners missing in Lebanon. Most are believed held by pro-Iranian factions.

They are eight Americans, four Britons, two West Germans, two Swiss, an Irishman and an Italian. One of the Britons, New York-based writer Alex Collett, kidnapped March 25, 1985, was reportedly killed by his captors, the Revolutionary Organisation of Socialist Muslims, in 1986.

No body has been found, but British officials believe that he is dead.

## Release

Iranian officials and newspapers, as well as a Shiite leader in Lebanon, have over the last two weeks made statements calling for the hostages' release.

But, despite the optimism this has

raised in some quarters that a release is possible, the hostages appear to be caught in the crossfire of a rift between Iran's so-called pragmatists led by President Hashemi Rafsanjani and hardline, anti-Western radicals led by former interior minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi.

This is mirrored in the Shiite fundamentalist Hezbollah, or party of God, which is believed to be the parent group for the hostage-holding factions.

Hezbollah's political wing supports Rafsanjani, who is seeking to improve Iran's ties with the West. But the militants holding the captives are aligned with Mohtashemi.

Nonetheless, Kayhan International's comments underlined that Tehran may be seeking new openings for dialogue with the West, particularly the United States.

The daily said the two Americans, David Erwin Rabbani and Jon Patris, could be released if Washington freed Othman Al Mujahid, Elmer "Geronimo" Pratt and Khalifa Hammam Abdul Khalis, who it identified as "political prisoners" in the United States.

It said that the Rev Jesse Jackson or civil rights activist Ramsey Clark, a former US attorney-general, should visit Tehran to facilitate the Americans' release.

Excerpts of the paper's editorial were carried by the Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Nicosia.



Conservative leader of Lambeth Hugh Jones. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Britons react over poll tax

# Thatcher's Waterloo in the making

LONDON, (Reuter): The last time there was a poll tax in England, the peasants revolted and the chancellor of the exchequer was lynched.

Six hundred years later, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's modern equivalent of funding local services by a levy on all adults is sparking a powerful, if less bloodthirsty, reaction.

Only a month before a "poll tax" comes into force in England and Wales, hostilities have broken out between the cabinet and local authorities across the land charged with enforcing it.

In a dramatic split, 18 veteran Conservative local councillors in Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd's Oxfordshire constituency quit the party in protest at the tax.

## Exchanges

In bitter exchanges between London and town halls around Britain, Environment Secretary and poll tax supreme Chris Patten accused local councils of padding their budgets and telling wrathful taxpayers to blame the new tax.

Warning councils to curb their spending plans, Patten said budgets announced so far would have a "devastating" effect on inflation, which is currently running at about eight per cent a year and is the government's biggest economic headache.

Even Conservative councils in southern England, heart of the government's support, attacked proposed figures for the tax as inadequate, said it would be difficult to collect and called on the government to pump money from central funds into education and social services to keep individual costs down.

Demonstrators broke up council meetings in three different areas last week as they met to set a poll tax figure.

Patten wrung £1 billion (\$1.67 billion) out of the Treasury last October to soften the impact of the tax, but there is little prospect of further funds with the government in economic trouble and an austerity budget likely on March 20.

A recent opinion poll found that one person in

three rated the poll tax as currently the top issue of public concern.

With no sign of a solution, Conservative politicians met Thatcher on Thursday to voice their concern that anger over the tax could cost the party the next election, due by mid-1992.

Right-wing Member of Parliament Tony Marlowe called it "a political cyanide pill." He said the government had declared "war on the people" and warned that the electorate would take their revenge.

## Titank

Former cabinet minister John Biffen called the tax the government's "titank". The pro-Conservative Times newspaper declared in an editorial it was "the rock on which the government is most likely to founder at the next general election."

In Parliament, Thatcher has been assailed by mutinous Conservatives fearful of losing their seats as well as opposition critics.

What is also being whispered behind her back is that it could cost Thatcher the Conservative leadership if the rebellion gets much stronger. The government is expected to suffer severe setbacks in local elections in May.

Thatcher has long wanted to scrap the out-moded system of rates, taxes levied by local councils to pay for community services based on the value of property, and bring in a broader system which would boost local government income.

Her alternative, unveiled in the 1987 election campaign, was "to abolish the unfair domestic rating system and replace rates with a fairer community charge."

The community charge was passed in Parliament in January despite a vote against it by 31 of the government's 99-member majority. It orders that "a fixed rate for local services" must be paid by everyone over 18 — hence the "poll tax" label.

Introduced last year in Scotland, where it came into force in 10 people have so far refused to pay. It comes into force in England and Wales on April 1.

About 42 million Britons will be liable to pay the

tax, more than double the number of former ratepayers.

Thatcher defends the tax on the grounds that more people will pay for services enjoyed by all.

## Refused

She has refused to bow to calls to drop or change it, saying: "Rating was the most bitterly unfair tax, only paid by about half the people who vote in local elections."

Critics argue that it is unfair and unjust. "The poor are the biggest losers since it is not based on ability to pay," said a spokesman for the opposition Labour Party, noting that people in Labour's northern strongholds will be hardest hit.

As with rates, each council sets its own poll tax level. But the government said the national average should be £278 (£464) a head. Furious councils said this was far too low and are instead setting an average of £370 (£620).

Such a figure will make millions of voters worse off and was slammed by Thatcher as an unacceptable rip-off.

Patten said councils had given themselves a 35 per cent rise in spending money, the equal to a two per cent rise in income tax. Such a sum would boost inflation by 0.5 per cent, he added.

Exacerbating public anger is the fact that some of the lowest poll tax figures are in some of the country's richest areas.

The tax in London's wealthy Westminster district, which includes Parliament and the prime minister's 10 Downing Street home, will be about £195 pounds (£325).

Just across the River Thames in neighbouring Lambeth, which includes tracts of public housing estates not found in Westminster, the figure climbs to £650 pounds (£1,085).

Consolation for Thatcher may come from history: the government was forced to abandon the last poll tax by the peasants' revolt of June, 1381. But within three months it had crushed the rebels' rebellion and renege on other concessions.

## Clergy attacks economic policy

DUBAI, (Reuter): Frustration at economic stagnation in Iran is creating an atmosphere of popular unrest, adding a new and dangerous element to emerging divisions within the leadership, Iranian political analysts say.

Factions of Iran's Islamic clergy have begun a new attack on President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani's reformist economic hardship for the majority of Iranians, the analysts said.

And the reappearance of disgraced senior cleric Ayatollah Hossein Ali Montazeri as a rallying point for anti-reformist clergy has added uncertainty, the analysts said.

"This has come just as the government is making more and more concessions to economic reality because it knows it cannot contain popular feeling for ever," said a Gulf-based analyst.

Rafsanjani's dilemma is that his attempts to save the economy by improving Iran's foreign relations and proposing economic reform are not improving living standards fast enough to wean popular opinion to his side, the analyst said.

Iranian political sources said that over past month, crowds have gathered several times in Tehran and other major cities for spontaneous anti-government protests.

Interior Minister Abdollah Nouri on Wednesday denied that there had been any unrest since a football match riot on Feb 16 and said such reports were "silly jokes."

Analysts said a loss of hope that living conditions

would improve soon had made crowds ripe for outbreaks.

An officially authorised 20 per cent rise in the minimum wage on Tuesday was the most recent sign of government concern to contain rising dissatisfaction, they said.

In the uncontrolled foreign exchange market in Dubai, just over the Gulf from Iran, where traders are sensitive to every twist and turn of the political situation in Tehran, the Iranian rial slumped to new peacetime lows this week.

Traders said rumours of ministerial resignations and a general fear Iran was slipping back into political chaos sent the rial down toward 1,400 against the dollar, the lowest since the worst days of the eight-year Iran-Iraq war.

Late Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini sacked Montazeri as his religious heir a year ago, telling him to stay out of politics.

Montazeri is anti-Western and stands for the Islamic revolution's social conscience in the minds of many Iranians, the analysts said. He fell for criticising Khomeini for allowing widespread violation of human rights, they said.

After Khomeini's death, the much more junior cleric Ayatollah Ali Khamenei was appointed his religious successor.

In the esoteric world of Iranian theological debate, senior clerics have now attacked Khamenei on grounds he does not have the authority for such a position.

## Letters to the editor

### Sports coverage

SIR: It is a pity to see the sweat and struggle of other local sports go to waste. I fail to understand why KTV would rather buy sports shows from other countries than show the local sports.

Let me make myself specific. There are many cricket matches on the local grounds and stadiums between different clubs, which are patronized by a large number of people. Cricket is the favourite sport of the expatriates here. It is enjoyed by the Pakistanis, Indians, Brits and Sri Lankans alike.

As far as I know, newspapers are the only medium in Kuwait that covers these matches. There is not even a mention of them on TV.

Recently a new TV station was started which was to be exclusively covering sports. We were glad that now KTV won't be monopolised by boring local football matches. Even they, Muddas station should be shared equally by all sports. Why do only certain sports like football, basketball, volleyball, etc monopolise the screen?

Other sports should also be encouraged and provided with media coverage. Instead of buying sport shows from other countries, people here would be satisfied if local sports, like some special cricket matches or the Filipino basketball matches and the karate, which are held every year, be shown once in a while. This would greatly raise the hope of all sports enthusiasts.

Oh! and the papers must show the timings of the different programmes on KTV3 also. This would help some by giving them information in advance as to what all is going on KTV3.

Sohail Javed Butt,  
Safat.

### False facts

SIR: I would like to answer Sibi Roy's letter published in your newspaper dated Feb 8, through which he falsely tried to cover the facts and truths about the Kashmir issue.

Kashmir is not a matter of a piece of land between India and Pakistan. It is not a border conflict between the two nations. Kashmir is the land of 12 million people. It is the issue of 28th biggest nation of the world. Kashmir is larger than 103 countries of the world. Roy has written that frustration in Kashmir is due to social and economic injustice. There is no social and economic justice in all over India. Why is it that other states do not demand for a separate and independent state?

It is an undeny fact that there is a rebellion in Kashmir. Twelve million people of Kashmir want a separate homeland. They want a plebiscite on Kashmir. Let us see the past history of "Kashmir". Roy ignored history and demographic reality. He forgot the year 1947, when Sheikh Abdullah warned India to keep its paws away from Kashmir and the late Indian premier Jawaharlal Nehru was pleading about a plebiscite for Kashmir in the United Nations. Let me quote Nehru's words:

## Peace

"We assure you (Liaquat Ali Khan — then Pakistan premier) that India would pull out forces from Kashmir as soon as peace is restored in the valley. Our promise is not with you only but with all of the Kashmiris and the world." (Jan 1948)

India representative in the United Nations told the Security Council in his address April 21, 1948, "as Kashmir issue is concerned with the neighbouring countries and the rest of the world, we have decided that Kashmir issue will be solved by the self-determination of Kashmiris."

On Oct 27, Indian premier (late) Nehru announced that from the very beginning India had decided that the last decision about Kashmir is in the hands of Kashmiris at any rate. No one can back out of this pact with Kashmir.

On April 21, 1948, the Security Council adopted the following resolution, "India and Pakistan both want plebiscite on Kashmir."

In August 1948, the Security Council adopted another resolution on the Kashmir issue. "Kashmir problem will be solved by the self-determination of the people of Kashmir."

Roy wrote something about Golden Jubilee of democracy in India, but in the same way India should pull out its forces from Kashmir and pave the way for UN to hold a plebiscite for Kashmiris in a democratic manner. For Roy's information and most of readers, there is a democratic government in Kashmir. People of Azad Kashmir have their own elected legislative assembly, premier and president. Azad Kashmir never enjoyed the bitter taste of martial law.

Roy also told the readers to enquire from Mujahids about their future in Pakistan. They are now owners of factories and multi-storey plazas in Pakistan.

Finally I would like to make it clear that there will be no peace in Azad Jammu and Kashmir until Kashmiris are given the right to self-determination according to UN Resolution 267 on the Kashmir problem.

B.A. Khan,  
Safat.

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

## 1990 ushers in elections

VIENNA, (Reuter): If 1989 was the year of revolution in Eastern Europe, 1990 is the year of elections as nearly 50 million people in five countries cast their first free votes in over four decades.

After throwing off communist governments imposed on them by Moscow in the aftermath of World War II, they will be electing the governments of their choice once again.

It will be a new experience for most of the electorate, with no experience or only the dimmest recollections of life in a democratic society.

## Problems

Re-learning the rules of democracy is not without its problems. "I am sleeping less and less," the head of Hungary's election office, Tibor Csiba, told Reuters.

"And not just because I am working late but because my head is full of what a responsibility I have."

In East Germany, Hungary, Romania, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria, dozens of political parties are emerging to fill the void left by the communists — around 50 have already been registered in both Romania and Hungary.

The communists, who opened the way to free polls by renouncing their traditional monopoly in power — either voluntarily, as in Hungary, or under pressure from the street, as in East Germany and Czechoslovakia — are likely to be obliterated in the polls as the people register their verdict on 40 years of political repression and economic stagnation.

The only Soviet bloc country not having elections this year is Poland, which blazed the democracy trail with party-free polls last year that spawned the bloc's first non-communist government.

Many of the parties are revived versions of those that existed before the communist takeover. Others are completely new. Most are serious, some are not. Like Czechoslovakia's Beer Party, and a Winnie-the-Pooh Party in Hungary whose 12-year-old founder wants shorter classes and more play time.

## Governments

The governments that emerge in most of them are expected to be centre-left coalitions along social democratic lines.

In most of these states, the main issue is likely to be the economy, and what system should be introduced to replace the discredited command structure of communism while retaining at least some of the welfare benefits the people are used to.

The environment, neglected by communist regimes welded to the Stalinist model of heavy industrialisation at any price, could also emerge as an issue amid growing recognition that the region is an ecological disaster area.

In East Germany, which kicks off the poll marathon on Mar 18, there is a single issue — unification — on which all main groups agree in principle.

The main West German parties all have counterparts or partners in the East, have pumped money and know-how into their campaigns, their leaders have crossed what remains of the Berlin Wall to throw their personal weight into the battle.

One of these cross-border parties, the Social Democrats, is widely tipped to win. A recent opinion poll gave them around 50 per cent of the vote of the 12 million electorate, three times more than their nearest rival.

East German counterparts of West Germany's far right Republicans, and all groups to the right of them, are banned from participating in the elections.

For East Germans, whose state was founded in 1949, it will be the first free elections since those in 1933 that brought Hitler to power.

On Mar 25 — a week after the East German poll — Hungary's 7.7 million voters have the first round of their elections to a new 386-member Parliament, with a second round on April 8.

## Polls

In the latest opinion polls, the Alliance of Free Democrats, a liberal grouping including many former dissidents, was out front with 18 per cent support, one point ahead of the nationalist Hungarian Democratic Forum.

Despite the fact that Hungary's revolution was led by the Communist Party itself, their successors, the socialists, were given only 12 per cent.

In Romania, which votes in May 20, the National Salvation Front set up to run the country after the overthrow of communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu last December has surged to 57 per cent support in a recent press poll.

Somewhat back, three resurgent parties founded in the last century, the Peasants, Liberals and Social Democrats, face an uphill struggle to present a new image with ageing leaders.

Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria are set to vote in June. In Bulgaria, where the Communist Party toppled veteran strongman Todor Zhivkov in an internal palace coup, the party appears to have good support despite the legacy of its 35-year rule.

## Quote me

"One problem was that some guests opened their windows to see what was going on. As a result, sparks went into their rooms driven by the strong winds which spread the fire into the building," — assistant manager of Cairo Sheraton on the fire which damaged the hotel.

"It has never happened before. But I would like to interpret it as the friendship Mr Bush has for the prime minister and Japan. There is no direct link between the trade talks and the president's call. The summit is not a D-day for the process," — a Japan Foreign Ministry official on Bush's call to Kaifu in the middle of the night inviting him to a California summit.

"Every day we used to think the worst was over, every day we realise how wrong we were," — terrified civilian in Beirut on the carnage in Lebanon.

"If the country, its military institution, people, and infrastructure are endangered, there is no alternative but to use this right (to intervene) and we will use it at the appropriate time," — Lebanese President Elias Hrawi on the inter-Christian duel in Beirut.

"In a situation like this, when the United States has certain proposals for Israel, when it asks us to trust it, have confidence, is that the time to come with proposals that arouse every person in Israel?" — Yitzhak Shamir to Israel television on Baker's comments Washington would not give aid to resettle Soviet Jews.



## Happy birthday



Madiha Shabbir turns 1 today March 6



Wasif Jamil Hashmi turned 8 on March 2



Bonita Fernandes today, March 6



Rohit Makhlani turned 4 on March 1



Haroon Shabbir Hashmi turned 13 on March 3



Ramya Rajendra turned 10 on February 27



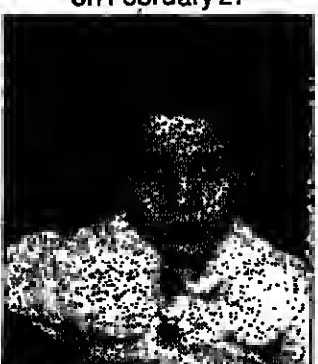
Aziz Khan Hakim turned 5 on March 3



Sania Daniel turns 6 on March 7



Ramanan Rajendra turned 12 on February 28



Mawash Shahn turned 4 on March 5



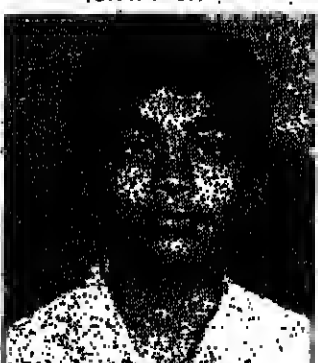
Zeeshan Qureshi turned 7 on March 4



Shaan Bansal turned 1 on March 4



Trevor D'Souza turned 6 on March 5



Faisal Rajib turned 12 on March 3



Clinton Soares turned 7 on March 4



Niranjala Jesmie turns 4 on March 9

## Golden memories and silver years

Geeta Geope

As in a fond dream,  
Float memories gently.  
To my breast I clasp,  
Ebbing tides lingering faintly.

An aching numbness,  
My heart did fill,  
With tears unshed,  
I bade farewell.

I wondered forlorn  
Amidst the pleasures,  
I knew; and gazed,  
Lost in a maze.

Sweet home of all,  
My joys, fears and sorrows,  
To thee did solute:  
Adieus, my friend, Adieus.

Homeward bound,  
And back again,  
The mind did wake,  
To the happy refrain.

"This land is my land....."  
From mothers bosom,  
To the womb,  
The twain I do cherish.

The dream began: I sigh,  
A stranger on the shore,  
Where hast thy soul gone,  
I know not thee anymore!

## Just for laughs!

My brother said to my sister, "You look pretty".  
She said, "Do I?"  
He said, "Yes, pretty dreadful."

My brother said to my uncle, "I'd like a pet squirrel."  
My uncle said, "Well, go up that tree and act normal."  
The squirrel'll take you for a nut."

## A lighted candle on a windy night

THE country was crying with poverty and people who eat grass to live. The homeless huddle themselves inside drain pipes during winter doubtful if they will see the sun tomorrow. They eat the rich men's dog refuse and drink polluted water from stagnant ponds. Yet a special scene is logged deep into my memory and whenever I think of it, I find myself returning "the smile".

It was my first time in Bangladesh and I was on a bus heading for my relatives home. Unfortunately, but as usual, the bus broke down and I, unaccustomed to the terrible climate, had to get out of the over-headed bus for some fresh air.

As I stepped down, I could smell poverty everywhere. The beggars dirty with dust and sand followed us (my dad and I) everywhere. The street dancers gave me cunning looks and abnormal people, dirty buildings, broken roads accompanied by the noisy stinking fishmarket with rotten fish lying everywhere welcomed me.

In a while I found myself longing to get back inside the bus. On my way back, I accidentally bumped into a little boy peddler who was happily selling sweets — I dropped all of his goods on the dirty road.

He said nothing, looked no-how but only expressed a beautiful smile. He was like a lighted candle on a windy night.

The smile washed away my thoughts of a country where cheaters govern, where sickness overflows, where drunk people are kings and where horrible stuff is precious; into a country where children sell flowers and play innocently, where the sky is bluer than ever, where the sun shines more brightly than anywhere else and a place real only in

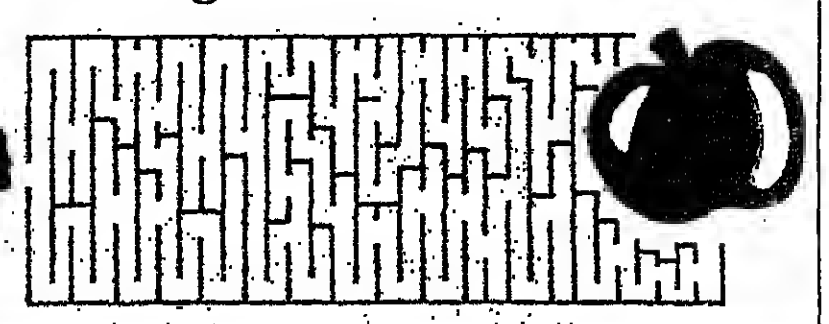
dreams.  
I was lucky enough to have my father's camera along to capture a real solid memory of the little boy who thanked me for taking the photograph, collected his fallen sweets and went to do business with his friends.

"A lighted candle on a windy night!"

Amina Reza



## Through the maze



## Jon and Peter's success is music to mum's ears

Determined youngsters overcome odds

TWO young brothers — born with severe speech handicaps — are amazing doctors and teachers with their outstanding musical talents. One even plays the trumpet and sings!

Jonathan Ellis, 13, and his 12-year-old brother Peter were born with severe deformities to their mouths and palates.

But after years of operations and speech therapy, the gifted pair have both won scholarships to Wells Cathedral School near Bristol to specialize in music.

And Peter has been chosen to play in a concert at London's famous Queen Elizabeth Hall.

The boys were both born with cleft lip and palate which affects one in 700 of the population and causes speech defects. By rights, neither should be able to speak properly but they have surprised doctors with their determination to overcome their handicaps.

And now Jonathan is a talented pianist and composer while Peter plays the trumpet and sings. Their proud mum Sue, 43, told me at her home in Wells, Somerset: "They're very determined. The boys should be as inspired too to other with the same condition."

"I remember the lonely moments in hospitals considering the gloomy prospect that they would never be normal. If I could have imagined that Peter would sing, I would have had fewer sleepless nights."

Divorcee Sue explains: "Both the boys were born with bilateral cleft lip and palate. It is hereditary and it can be shocking to look at a baby with this condition."

The upper lip is split up to the nostrils. Something goes wrong inside the womb and the lip does not fuse before the baby is born.

When Jon was born, doctors told me that if I had a second child, the chances were he would inherit the condition too. But although it causes a great deal of discomfort during childhood, it is not life-threatening.

"When Jon was about three months old, he had an operation to repair his lip and when he was about 18 months he had another one to put his palate right. But it didn't heal very well, so he had to have four extra operations at Great Ormond Street Hospital in London."

Because of his speech defects, Jonathan had to have years of speech therapy. Now he speaks so well that it's hard to believe he has ever had any problems.

Although brother Peter suffered the same speech defects and had to be taught to speak again after an operation to repair his palate when he was 10, he has already taken his first singing exam and was praised for the clarity of his diction.

## Cruel

Although their cleft lips are barely noticeable now, Sue still remembers how strangers reacted when they saw the boys as babies. She told me: "People can be incredibly cruel. They would look at Jon and say, 'Oh, how ugly! How awful for you.'"

"I suppose it was a bit of a shock. So I got extra-sensitive about the boys and I would warn people when they looked into the pram."

Sue says the boys' musical talents are not inherited. "I think like that alone for a second. And so I talked to him all the time. When you're nursing a child, you handle them and love them more and they thrive on it and become brighter and more communicative."

The boys were brought up on concerts and operas and showed early musical promise. She recalled: "For his third birthday I bought Jon a toy melodica — a keyboard instrument which



Peter plays his trumpet and Jonathan plays the piano at their school in Wells, Somerset.

you blow. And because you're blowing, it's good exercise for the palate.  
"He started playing songs by pressing the coloured key which co-ordinated the notes in the book. Within two weeks, he had learned to play by ear."

The next step was to buy a second-hand piano. "Jon started playing it and I looked for someone to teach him. But all the piano teachers were horrified. None of them would take on a three-year-old. They must have thought he would wet the piano bench or run wild in their homes!"

Sue had already taught the boys how to read when they were two, so she started to teach Jon to read music. "I had loads of computer print-out paper and I drew musical notes as big as thumb-nail. I thought if they were big, Jon would remember what I had taught him."

"I would teach him for a while and when I had finished he would sneak back to the piano. And in the end I had to practise to the evenings to keep up with him!"

As well as teaching the boys how to read music, Sue gave them a home education.

Both had been reading since the age of two and, when Jonathan started regular school, he was years ahead of his classmates. Sue decided it would be better to continue his education at home until he was 11.

## Bright

"Both boys are academically very bright," she said. "And by the time they were three, I could give them a shopping list and let them go round the supermarket by themselves."

"Teaching them was a great adventure for me. I just thought 'Well, it can't be that difficult!' I had more fun teaching them than I ever had doing anything else. They've given me so much."

Sue was able to support Jonathan and Peter by taking in lodgers, so she could stay at home to teach them.

She remembered: "When Jon was first learning the piano, we took in musical lodgers including someone who played the viola and someone who played the guitar. They inspired Jon to

learn other instruments. Another lodger taught Jon the piano. And when he was four, he passed his first piano exam, Grade 1."

"I couldn't afford piano lessons. But one day we were in London and went past the old piano firm Broadwoods. We went inside and I sat Jon up on one of the piano stools."

"He started to play some Beethoven and some Mozart. Because he was so small, people started to gather round. Everyone thought he was remarkable for his age."

"The manager took me into his office and told me they had funds for some scholarships. So Jon auditioned and got the scholarship which was enough for one piano lesson a week."

Jon was playing the violin by the age of four and composing at the age of seven.

When Peter was five, Sue was offered a cheap trumpet which she thought would be therapeutic for him since he was suffering from a rare deformity and needed to exercise it.

## Lessons

"Peter fell in love with the trumpet because Jon was doing so well and finally Peter had found something he could do better than Jon," said Sue. "He started taking lessons when he was seven. At that time I seemed to spend my life between doctor's clinics and music teachers!"

She remembers taking Peter with his trumpet to Great Ormond Street to show the doctors. "They thought I had meant a toy trumpet," she said. "So when he started to play, the surgeons couldn't believe it."

"All the doors opened and everyone came in to listen. I don't think they had ever seen a child with a cleft lip and palate play the trumpet before. They didn't even know it could be done."

Now Sue hopes Jonathan and Peter will inspire other children born with the same condition. Sue told me: "I recently made a tape of Jon and Peter playing to send to friends and relatives. I sent one to the doctors at Great Ormond Street, too. It occurred to me how nice it would be for other parents who have babies with cleft lip and palate to hear the tape. It

would give them hope and show them what can be achieved."

"I remember I couldn't believe it when I heard that a choirboy at St. Paul's had been born with a cleft lip, because to be a choirboy you need the most beautiful voice and control."

"I just thought, if one child could do it, why not another? I also found out that the senior trumpeter of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra was born with a hare lip."

The condition is usually accompanied by disturbances to tooth formations and both boys have had several operations to correct their teeth.

They have also been prone to ear infections because of the condition and, because these infections have slackened his ear-drum, Peter has lost much of the hearing in his left ear.

Now that the boys have settled into their school, they divide their spare time between scouts, crafts, youth hostelling, aod, of course, their music.

Jonathan, who enjoys playing guitar as well as violin and piano, told me: "I would love to make music my career. I want to be a concert pianist."

"I passed my Grade 8 piano exam when I was 10. That is the highest exam there is. But I want to take the exam again to get a better mark. I got merit last time but I want to pass with distinction."

Jonathan has composed Christmas carols and has won two out of the three school Christmas carol competitions he has entered.

Sue says the boys are very close. And Jonathan says of Peter: "He has done even better than I have because people who are born with a cleft lip aren't even meant to talk properly — let alone play the trumpet!"

Peter, who also plays viola and piano, told me: "I really want to be a concert trumpeter. But I also enjoy singing and I'd love to sing opera. One of my favourites is The Magic Flute."

Peter is already at Grade 5 on the trumpet and spends at least half an hour on the instrument each day. He said: "I wouldn't mind composing like Jonathan but that takes a special talent which he has."

Peter, who says his mother has taken them to more than 40 concerts and operas, has just learned he has been chosen to play with the National Children's Orchestra and will play in a concert at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London at the end of the year. "I get a little nervous when I'm performing in public," confessed Peter.

"But I think that helps me concentrate."

The brothers still need some work done on their irregular teeth and Peter will have to wear a fixed brace for two years. "I'm hoping that it won't impair my playing too much," he told me.

"But when it comes off, I'll be able to play even better than before."

Their headmaster at Wells Cathedral School, John Baxter, said: "Jonathan has an astonishing range of musical gifts and Peter is an outstanding trumpeter — a remarkable achievement in view of his cleft palate."



Talented brothers Jonathan and Peter Ellis with their mum Sue.

## FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

## DISEASE PROVOKES ATTACKS OF VERTIGO

QUESTION: My mother, who is 69 years old, now suffers from Meniere's disease. She also has a constant ringing in one ear. Her attacks are not very severe, but she now hesitates to leave the house, fearing an attack while she is out. What can be done to help her?

ANSWER: Meniere's disease can provoke serious attacks of vertigo that are associated with nausea and vomiting and are completely unpredictable. They appear quite suddenly, may last from just a few hours up to 24 hours, and then gradually ease off.

Tinnitus, which is a ringing in the ear, may be constant, although in some patients it too comes and goes, and usually affects both ears. The hearing in this ear also can come and go, but over a period of time, tends to become increasingly impaired. In 10 per cent to 15 per cent of the patients with Meniere's, both ears are affected.

Although first described in 1861, the cause of the disease is still unknown. Its mechanism also are poorly understood, aside from the fact that it affects the inner ear apparatus (vestibular system). There is no absolute treatment, but a number of possibilities exist to diminish the severity and frequency of attacks.

Anti-cholinergic medications, atropine or scopolamine are useful to diminish the symptoms associated with the disease. General sedation using barbiturates is of some help. Diazepam also may be used to reduce the misery of severe vertigo attacks by sedating the inner ear apparatus.

Your mother should be encouraged to maintain her activities, accompanied by a friend who understands her

condition, and can assist if an attack should occur.  
QUESTION: What is a "ganglion cyst"? A friend gave that label to a hard, pea-sized lump I have developed in the wrist joint at the top of my left hand. It is not painful unless knocked. Are these cysts common? Can they turn cancerous? What is the best course of action for getting rid of one for good?

ANSWER: Your pea-sized lump is one of the most common tumours of the hand. It can arise from almost any tissue source, ligaments, tendon sheaths or joint capsules. Yours is at the most common location, the dorsum of the hand, and fits well in the range of sizes, from a few millimetres to 2 to 3 centimetres. Though sometimes they feel quite hard, most have a soft or rubbery feel, and are filled with a clear, jelly-like fluid. They never transform into a cancer of any type.

If you are not too inconvenienced and your ganglion has been around a short time, you might want to delay any treatment since this little balloon will disappear by itself sometimes. It can be aspirated to remove the liquid, and then injected with a corticosteroid, but that procedure provides no assurance that the ganglion cyst will not return. The most effective method of treatment, when the ganglion is symptomatic, is to eliminate it surgically, being most careful to remove it all, including the stalk that attaches it to its origin. This dissection may sometimes be performed under a local anaesthetic. A careful skin closure will leave only a tiny scar, which when healed will be barely visible.



## JUNIOR TIMES

## Join the dots

Gay One!



## Firsts and lasts

The first record of fly-fishing is that it was practised with great skill by the Romans.

South Africa's first railway was built in 1860, thirty years after they were built in America.

The first wrestling is known to date from 2,700 BC when it was practised in Iraq.

Man first flew faster than the speed of sound in 1941. Twenty-two years later Concorde made its first flight.

The first suspension bridge was built in 1741 over the River Tees in Britain.

The first hang-gliding was practised in 1958.

The first written form of the German language was developed in the eighth century.

In the first years before the first Moon landing in 1969, the cost of the preparations amounted to almost the same as that spent by Americans on make-up and other cosmetics during the same period!

In Chaouen, in Northern Morocco you can see snow on trees and rooftops during the summer.

Before evolving his theory of relativity, Albert Einstein had worked as a clerk in a patents office.

The paradise fish of Thailand builds its nest underwater, bringing air from the surface and saliva to create a nest of bubbles.

Dear Junior Readers,

You probably know how important it is when you are playing sports that you always watch where the action is. In many sports using a ball, you are required to watch the ball or you will be unable to play the game properly. In many cases it could be dangerous to you if you were not watching at all times, and certainly, your friends will not want you on their team, if you do not watch what is happening. Being active at sports is perhaps obvious. Being in the classroom might not be as obvious because it is not our bodies that we want to be alert but our minds.

To be an active student, watch the teacher, listen to her/him and keep your mind on what is being said. Don't be caught not paying attention because you will be the one that will suffer by not understanding what is being taught.

Be an active student and you will find that school is much easier for you.

Mandal

## Just for laughs!

My uncle was having a chat with this woodworm. He said, "How are things with you?"

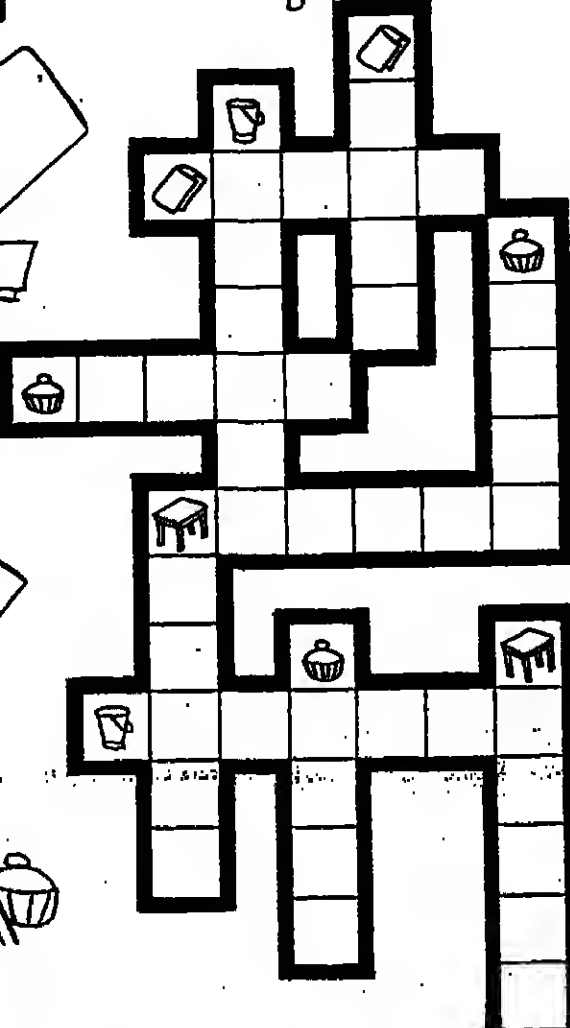
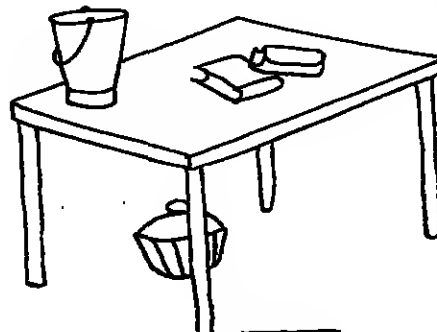
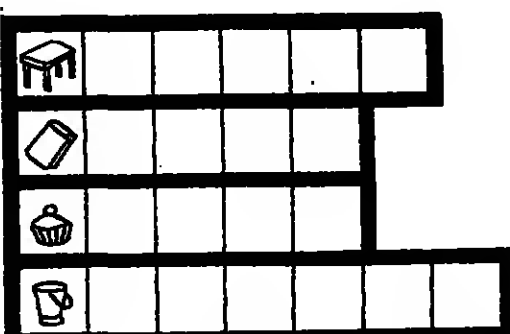
The woodworm said, "Oh pretty boring."

My mum said to the teacher, "God knows what my daughter's going to be when she's passed her exams."

The teacher said, "At this rate she'll probably be an old-age pensioner."

## Criss-cross fun

Write the names of the four objects in the blank boxes below. Then complete the crossword by writing each object's name in the blank squares beside each picture.



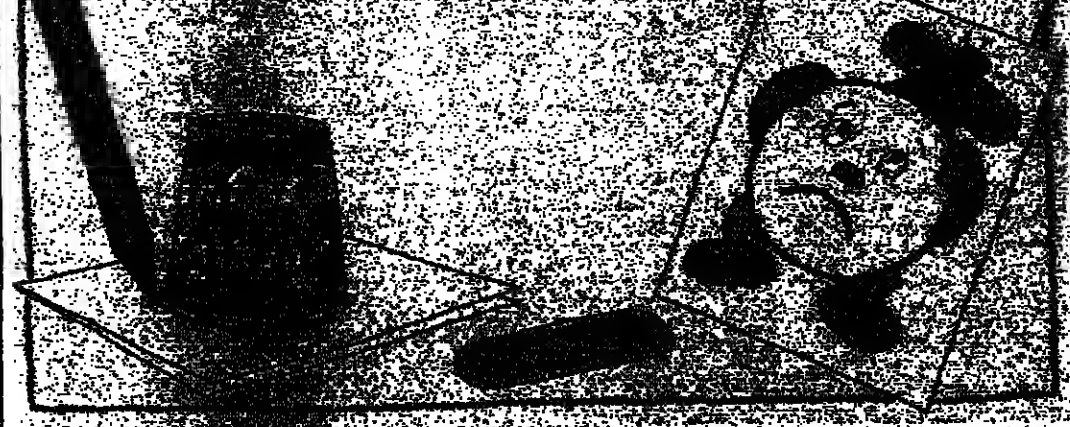
## Fold well card

Fold to make a card for a friend or family member.

Draw a picture of a person, place, or thing on the front.

Write a message on the back.

Give it to the person or place you drew.



## St Patrick's Search

Directions: Find the words listed below, in the puzzle. Each word relates to St. Patrick's Day. The words can be found horizontally, from left to right, vertically, from top to bottom, and diagonally.

C	B	N	F	G	H	Y	P	M	C
S	H	I	L	L	E	L	A	G	H
H	I	R	I	S	H	E	T	I	M
A	S	A	I	N	T	P	R	R	U
M	A	R	C	H	S	R	I	E	S
R	L	P	L	C	N	E	C	L	H
O	U	M	O	K	A	C	K	A	R
C	C	P	V	T	K	H	G	N	O
K	K	T	E	R	E	A	O	D	O
S	M	K	R	Y	C	U	L	P	M
W	R	G	R	E	E	N	D	B	A

shamrock  
March  
snake  
Leprechaun  
mushroom

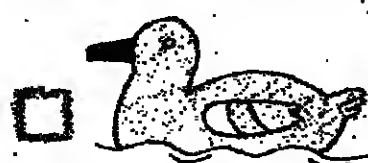
clover  
Saint  
Ireland  
green  
pot

Irish  
Patrick  
luck  
shillelagh  
gold

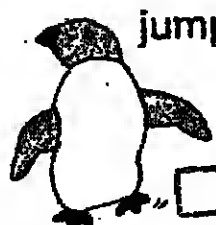
## Join the science gang

## Moving

Can you move like these animals?  
Tick the box if you can...



swim like a duck



waddle like a penguin



hop like a rabbit



slither like a snake



jump like a kangaroo

Put a star \* by the quickest way of moving.

Put a cross X by the most tiring way.

Can you think of other ways to move?

Try them out and write them here.

## Note to Parents

Help your child to write the list. Ways to move might include skipping, hopping, sliding, galloping, reeling, shuffling etc. The ways that use most energy are the most tiring.

Watching and talking about natural history programmes on TV is a good way for your child to discover more about the animal world.

Rangdhanu, a variety show was recently held in which many Bangladeshi children participated. The show was divided into two main parts: songs, dances and a drama.

Sabina presented the introductory dance in the variety programme. Other participants were Laila, Tumpa, Adita, Tonni, Sahrina, Ishita, Joyoti, Farzana, Shaon and Mili.

Part two was a drama of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, a play written from the original fairy tale by Brother Grim about the life of a motherless princess fallen miserable due to the wickedness of her stepmother. She went to live with the seven dwarfs in the woods and was eventually found by a prince. The young actors who joined this drama were: Simika, Salina Nastia, Arif, Simia, Shimon, Moonal, Ishita, Tonni, Joy, Timur, Osman, Ryzwana, Ipsita, Fady, Tahseen.

Pictures show (below) Sabina in opening dance (rest) scenes from Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.



## A bright rainbow





# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Libya reserves move may fuel Opec row over quota

NICOSIA, March 5, (Reuters): In a move likely to add fuel to Opec members' squabbles over how to divide their share of the world oil market, Libya has doubled its figures on proven oil reserves and said it upgraded its output capacity by a third.

But oil analysts and officials in the Gulf, where most of the world's oil

reserves are located, were sceptical both of Libya's claim of reserves totalling 45 to 50 billion barrels and of its ability to upgrade capacity by that much.

Libya's claims are the latest in a series by Opec members arguing on the basis of their reserves that they should have a bigger share in a booming market.

The claims have set the tone for a stormy meeting by the divided Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries on March 16 in Vienna.

Differences on output and pricing policies have even reached Opec's "Big Three." The oil ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq failed at a meeting on Saturday to adopt a unified

approach to the Vienna meeting.

Iraq wants Opec's reference price of \$18 a barrel increasing—an idea rejected by Kuwait which advocates price moderation to maintain the current buoyant demand.

Gulf Arab officials today sought to play down the differences after reports over the weekend that Saudi Arabia

was siding with Iraq in seeking higher prices.

"Although there are differences of opinion between the Gulf countries, Saudi Arabia is not siding with anybody," an oil source told Reuters.

"The market itself is the most important factor in deciding the prices," he said.

The Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) quoted Libyan officials today as saying that Libya's recoverable crude reserves now were 45-50 billion barrels compared with 22.8 billion.

The North African country has previously declined to reveal reserve figures saying they were "national security secrets."

GCC, EEC to discuss how to ease tensions over-quota restrictions

## Proposed trade pact inadequate

NICOSIA, March 5, (Reuters): The Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) is to tell the European Economic Community, its biggest trading partner, that a proposed free trade pact is still inadequate, a GCC official said today.

Foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman met in Riyadh yesterday to agree a common position before their first meeting with their EEC counterparts in Oman on March 17.

The two sides will discuss how to ease tensions over quota and tariff restrictions imposed by the community on the Gulf's

cheaper petrochemical products. EEC foreign ministers last December agreed a mandate for a free trade pact that includes a lengthy transition period before the scrapping of their protective barriers.

"This mandate does not satisfy the needs of the Gulf Council," GCC assistant secretary-general for economic affairs, Abdullah Al Quwais, told Reuters in Cyprus by telephone.

Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Youssef Bin Alawi, whose country is current president of the GCC, said after the meeting the ministers had reached a common position on negotiations with the European

side. Under the proposed free trade agreement, the 12-nation community would scrap all customs duties on Gulf imports except those on designated sensitive products.

Gulf officials have complained this would effectively maintain the current restrictions on petrochemicals, aluminium and refined products — industries the GCC states are boosting to reduce their heavy reliance on oil exports.

Al Quwais said the GCC was also unhappy with the 12-year transition period to eliminate tariffs on Gulf products, com-

pared with eight years on EEC exports.

"The Europeans recognise the fact that we are developing countries with infant industries but we don't find this consideration in the mandate," he added.

Petrochemical producers in Britain, West Germany and the Netherlands fear a flood of cut-price imports from the Gulf where oil and gas are abundant and cheap.

Al Quwais said GCC officials and industrialists had heard the same complaints from their EEC counterparts during a conference in Granada, Spain, last month.

### Xenophon Zolotas Greece wants Draconian measures for economy

ATHENS, March 5, (Reuters): Greek Prime Minister Xenophon Zolotas said on Friday "Draconian austerity" measures must be imposed after April elections to avert economic chaos.

Huge public deficits were critical and the government was living month-to-month in its scramble to find money to pay civil service salaries and pensions, he told a news luncheon.

"The new government will have to take immediate measures, Draconian austerity measures — and austerity really means austerity — to prevent chaos," Zolotas said.

He recommended higher taxes, cuts in state spending and sacrifices by the public.

Zolotas, 85, a former Central Bank governor, was chosen to lead an all-party national unity government formed after inconclusive elections in November.

The government collapsed in February and elections have been called for April 8, the third in 10 months.

The three main parties, conservatives, socialists and communists, joined forces in November to tackle the battered economy. But they were able to agree only on limited measures like tax increases, leaving untouched fundamental problems of huge budget and trade deficits.

Zolotas said ailing state firms cost Greece 600 billion drachmas (\$4 billion) in 1989 and would cost 120 billion (\$800 million) more in 1990 if nothing was done.

Those companies "really on their death beds" should be closed immediately, even if it meant three or four year pay-offs for workers, he said. Salvageable state firms should be sold.

The government had been flooded with offers from home and abroad. A foreign company had offered to buy 20 per cent of Olympic Airways, he said, without naming the firm or country.

### World Bank to double loans for education

JOMTIEN, Thailand, March 5, (AP): The World Bank will double its loans for education in the developing countries over the next three years, bank chairman Barber Conable said today.

"We will expand our contribution to roughly twice that of what we have been doing," Conable said.

The bank now lends about \$900 million annually for education in developing countries, said another bank official. That is roughly 15 per cent of all international education aid, making the bank the largest single donor, he said.

Conable is attending the 155-nation world conference on education for all, which began today at Jomtien, near Bangkok. The World Bank is an intergovernmental agency related to the United Nations by special agreements.

Delegates at the conference said one key to its success is securing commitments from donors to fund its recommendations.

Conable said he would announce the bank's increased commitment to the conference tomorrow.

He said the bank will push for more support for primary education programmes in particular.

### Trade team for Kuwait

KUWAIT, March 5, (Kuna): A Dutch trade mission will be visiting Kuwait from March 11 till the 13th under the auspices of the Netherlands Ministry of Economic Affairs and with the co-operation of the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The embassy of the Netherlands said the mission consists of representatives of manufacturers of a wide range of industrial and construction products.

Appointments with members of the mission can be arranged through Adel Aziz, commercial assistant at the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Kuwait, telephone 5312650/3 or 5312652 (direct line).



Kuwait and Poland concluded an agreement yesterday on encouraging and protecting investments. Finance Minister Jassem Al Khorafi (left) signed for the Kuwaiti side, while Polish Minister of Economic Co-operation with Foreign Countries Marcin Swietlicki signed for Poland. The agreement aims at creating the proper setting for more investment and economic co-operation between the two countries.

Kuwait, Poland to strengthen ties

## Accord to boost investment

KUWAIT, March 5, (Kuna): Polish Minister of Economic Co-operation with Foreign Countries Marcin Swietlicki said today that the economic reforms currently implemented in his country are long overdue and affirmed that the Polish constitution contains guarantees of foreign investments.

Speaking at a press conference held at a downtown hotel at the end of a three-day visit, the Polish minister said that these reforms will help make the Polish economy more competitive with those of Western Europe.

He indicated that his government allows unlimited foreign capital to enter Poland, noting that 1,000 joint venture companies were founded in Poland last year, including firms from West Germany, Sweden and the US.

Swietlicki said that 80 per cent of the Polish economy is state-controlled, but affirmed that current trend aims at shifting

some of the government's control over the economy to the private sector.

Relating to Japanese aid to Poland, the minister said that Japan will grant a \$1 billion loan to Poland, in the form of credit guarantees to help stabilise the Polish currency, zlot.

Replying to a question on the effect of the takeover by the Solidarity Union on the Polish economy, he denied that the union has contributed to the worsening of living conditions of the Polish people.

Kuwaiti-Polish relations, the minister said that ties between the two countries go back 20 years in history, affirming that the Polish government attaches great interest to Kuwaiti investments.

He added that he and Kuwaiti Finance Minister Jassem Mohammed Al Khorafi had signed earlier today an accord on

encouraging and protecting investments.

The Soviet-educated minister said that his talks with ranking Kuwaiti officials tackled the possibility of concluding several agreements between the two countries in the future, including one on elimination of double taxation.

He said that the Polish Trade Week, currently held in Kuwait, will help introduce the Kuwaiti market to the companies participating at the exhibition.

On trade relations between Kuwait and Poland, Swietlicki said that the trade balance between the two countries accounts for nearly \$21.5 million, all in Polish exports to Kuwait.

He indicated that he conveyed invitations to HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah and the ministers of finance and trade from their Polish counterparts to visit their country.

## Dollar beaten lower

LONDON, March 5, (Reuters): The dollar ended weaker in Europe today after being beaten down by a barrage of central bank intervention.

Shares were sharply lower in London in the absence of a clear trend on Wall Street but jumped in Frankfurt as fears of an early rise in interest rates retreated.

Economists and central bank officials said the central bank intervention was aimed mainly at propping up the West German mark which has weakened recently on fears about the possible inflationary impact of German currency union.

"The intervention was aggressive and had a huge initial impact, but the mark could slide again unless central banks return to the market again later this week," said one dealer in Frankfurt.

The West German Bundesbank led several rounds of intervention, selling dollars for marks at levels between 1.7110 and 1.7020 marks, dealers said.

The dollar, which performed strongly last week after a batch of favourable US economic data, was also sold by the central banks of the Netherlands, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, Spain, Austria, Britain and Denmark.

It hit an intraday low of 1.6955 marks before edging up to close in London at 1.7037 marks, more than one pence down on Friday's 1.7160 finish.

The Bundesbank had also sold dollars on Friday in its first open market intervention since early January.

Dealers said trade in the mark was likely to remain choppy at least until after East Germany's first free elections of March 18.

The dollar ended at 149.65 yen after finishing last week at 150.00, its highest close against the Japanese currency since August 1987.

The Bank of Japan had earlier sold dollars for yen in Tokyo, the seventh successive day of Bank of Japan dollar sales.

Sterling came under heavy pressure from mounting concern that an unpopular new poll tax, which increases property tax, will force inflation higher.

Forecasts of a poor result for Britain's ruling Conservative Party in a forthcoming by-election also unsettled a market still reeling from last week's wider than expected January trade gap.

The pound ended in London at 1.6400 against the dollar after a previous close of 1.6520.

Exchange rate speculation intensifies

## Bonn mark under pressure

FRANKFURT, March 5, (Reuters): Speculation about the timing and extent of German monetary union intensified yesterday amid growing political support for an exchange rate of one-to-one, at least for the billions of marks tied up in East German savings.

Talk of a one-to-one savings swap rate between the unconvertible East German mark and the powerful West German mark has already put Bonn's currency under pressure on the world's foreign exchange markets this week.

The West German mark slipped to its lowest level against the dollar for more than a month, with dealers worried about the impact that parity between the two currencies might have on prices in inflation-conscious

West Germany. But the speculation lifted East Germany's currency to the highest black market rate against West's mark for years.

"Suddenly people are realising that an East German mark may be worth more than they thought," said a dealer with a major West German bank.

He quoted the East German mark at about four East German marks to one West German mark, up from about 20 to one after East Germany opened its frontiers to the West last November 9. About 110,000 East Germans have left their country so far this year to look for a new life in the West.

## Ad giant grasps credit lifelines

LONDON, March 5, (Reuters): Advertising giant Saatchi and Saatchi, hit by sinking profits, has grabbed a \$450 million credit lifeline from 20 banks, a company spokesman said today.

"This should be more than enough to see the group through its present crisis," he said. He did not identify the banks.

A downtown in the US and British advertising markets has swept Saatchi off a wave of success in the last decade which began with a publicity campaign that helped Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to power in the 1979 general election.

Pre-tax profit fell from £138 million to £227.7 million in the year to September 1988 to £21.8 million (\$36 million) in the year to September 1988 £21.8 (\$36 million) in the following 12-month period.

Saatchi said last month it could not attain market estimates of £65 million (\$107.3 million) in pre-tax profit for the current year.

Founded by brothers Maurice and Charles Saatchi, the company became the world's biggest advertising agency in 1986 when it acquired US group Ted Bates. But it was ousted from its premier position in 1989 by WPP Group Plc.

## Oil strikes

DAMASCUS, March 5, (Reuters): The French company ELF Aquitaine has struck its first oil in the Al-Jabbar North Field in northeastern Syria with one test well producing 6,000 bpd of light crude, oil ministry officials said today.

ELF, which began exploring in northeastern Syria in 1989, is yet to decide the geological reserve and production capacity of the field, they said.

## Bombay shares

Bombay Stock Exchange prices (Rs)	March 05, '90	Pr. Close	Open	Close	Grading	110	110	109
ACC	352	352	352.50	352.50	GE Ship	46	46	46
Alm Chem	—	—	—	—	GSF	178.75	178.75	176.25
Alw Nis	—	—	—	—	Guj Alk	80.50	79	80.50
Art Fab	—	—	—	—	Guj Heavy	16	15	16
Asbok Ley	76	75	76	76	Hero Honda	16	15	16
Asia Paint	221.25	221.25	218.75	218.75	Hind Ciba	1130	1120	1100
Atlas Cop	37.50	38	39	39	Hind Lever	109	108	108
Auto Corp	52	47.50	47.50	47.50	Hind Motor	22.50	22	22
Bejai Auto	390	387.50	390	390	Hindalco	226.25	227.50	225
Bar Rayon	642.50	640	637.50	637.50	Hochst	1535	1530	1520
Below Plast	—	—	—	—	Ingersoll	215	217.50	225
Bom Dye	184	182.50	184	184	ITC	54.50	54	54
BK Bond	100	100	99	99	Ind Org	51.50	51.50	51.25
Burr Wei	85	77.50	82.50	82.50	Ind Rayon	92.25	92.75	91
Canshare	—	—	—	—	Indrol	172.50	171.25	172.50
Cen Enka	3075	3150	3100	3100	JK Spn	137.50	137.50	137.50
Cen Spg	2650	2640	2680	2680	Kir Cumm	75	74	75
Colgate	182.50	182.50	181.25	181.25	KSR Pumps	197.50	195	197.50
Cont Gr	940	940	950	950	Tata Oil	123	122.50	123
DCM	14	13	14	14	Tata Chem	435	435	435.50
Deep Fen	31	31	31.25	31.25	Telco	115.75	114.50	114.50
Dunlop	57	56	57	57	Thapp Agro	112.50	112	110
El Hotel	65	64	61	61	Tisco	112.50	112	110
Exports	84	84	83.50	83.50	Vam Org	137.50	138.75	137.50
BSE Index	691.61	681	685.88	685.88	Vartul	—	—	—
Esakay	130	128.75	130	130	Vollas	700	690	690
Essar Spg	31.75	31.75	31.25	31.25	Winco	19	19.25	18.50
Food Sp	106	106.25	109	109	Zenith	57	57	56
Forbes	48	48.50	48	48	Zuari Agro	58	57	58
Gar Poly	43	42.75	43.50	43.50				
Glindia	94.50	92.50	94	94				
GNFC	40.50	40.25	40	40				

Compiled by Kuwait-India International Exchange Co.

## SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 05/3/90	Agent	Tel. No.
B.No. Ship's Name Golden Bear Gulf Bridge	M. Bahar Sager Shabheen	3401900 2432692
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT	Agent	Tel. No.
ETA 04/03 Ship's name Sham	ISA	241860
05/03 Five Stars	S. Shabehn	2432692
06/03 White Reeder	Al Bader	2433537
06/03 Uni Spring	SMS	4745471
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT	Agent	Tel. No.
B.No. Ship's Name Great Harvest	RSM	2432642
06 Cape Briton	Algh Barwil	4842988
19 China Glory	Algh Barwil	4842988
VSIL AT ANCHORAGE	Agent	Tel. No.
Star Star	Sager Shabheen	2432692
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT	Agent	Tel. No.
ETA 06/03 Ship's name Westphalia	Al Kamal	2425437
05/03 Harmony Slave	KMCM	2432435
08/03 Madonna Lily	Algh Barwil	4842988
11/03 Ood Chanmy	Agri	4347815

Compiled by: Alghamir Barwil Shipping Co. WLL, Tel: 4842988/4843988 ext. 3628/3636 Fax No. 4845712, Tel 22664 BARWIL, KT. The 30894 SLS KY

## Soviet economists divided over key question of rouble reform

MOSCOW, March 5, (Reuters): In the days before perestroika, there was no such thing as a Soviet budget deficit.

As Mikhail Gorbachev's closest political ally in the Kremlin leadership, Alexander Yakovlev, said recently, the answer was simple: at the end of each year the government printed extra money or expropriated the profits of state companies.

And the deficit disappeared. The legacy of communist central planning and liberal use of the printing press is billions of practically worthless roubles washing around in the system with precious few goods to buy.

Reducing that "monetary overhang" poses one of the biggest challenges to Soviet reformist policy-makers trying to pull the country out of a deepening economic crisis.

But liberal economists are divided.

Fierce debate rages over how to restore the value of the rouble and its purchasing power.

One of the few things they can agree on is that the policies of the old days are discredited and must not be repeated. "The first thing we must do is stop printing money," Abel Aganbegyan, rector of the government's Academy of the National Economy, told Reuters in an interview.

But at least four different plans being considered as a growing weight of political and economic opinion is thrown behind a campaign to speed up the pace of economic reform.

All are likely to spell even greater hardship for Soviet citizens and risk exacerbating social tension in a society disillusioned by the failure of five years of perestroika to stop the slide in living standards. The four schemes are:

■ The step-by-step approach, favoured by Aganbegyan. The key is to soak up excess roubles, estimated at 165-200 billion (currently \$275-330 billion at official rates), by fostering private ownership of land and property and offering bonds to give the right to purchase consumer items such as cars.

Most subsidised prices would be allowed to rise to a level dictated by market forces, creating a credible monetary regime and paving the way for convertibility.

■ Currency reform introducing a new rouble. The scheme is advocated by some Russian nationalist politicians on the right and some radical reformers on the left including leading economist Gavril Popov, editor of the academic monthly journal Problems of the Economy.

Similar to a 1947 currency reform, old roubles in savings accounts would be swapped for new ones at a rate of one-to-one up to a certain limit. Everything above that would be lost.

The scheme is more radical than one now being considered for German monetary union where East German savings above a certain level could still be swapped for West German marks after a fixed number of years.

■ Introduction of a parallel, convertible rouble, favoured by another leading economist, Oleg Bogomolov, director of the Institute of the Economy of the World Socialist System.

This would be used at first in free economic zones and for joint ventures and could be backed by gold reserves. One historical precedent is Lenin's introduction in 1922 of gold-backed

"chervonets" in note and, a year later, coin form.

■ Introduction of a universally convertible rouble backed by gold. This idea was floated by a US Federal Reserve Board Governor, Wayne Angell, on a trip to Moscow last year and has been advocated by several Western economists.

The outcome of the currency debate has not yet been settled, but arguments appear to favour either Aganbegyan's step-by-step approach or Bogomolov's parallel currency plan.

Andrei Orlov, deputy chairman of the state commission for economic reform, told Reuters last week the body was "studying carefully" inclusion of proposals for a parallel currency in a new package of reform measures to be unveiled in the next days.

The concept has also won the sup-

port of Gorbachev's recently appointed personal economic adviser Nikolai Petrakov and has been urged by Western businessmen frustrated by being unable to convert rouble profits into hard currency.





Yildirim Akbulut

## Big drop in inflation expected in Turkey

ANKARA, March 5, (Reuters) Inflation, which has eroded support for Turkey's centre-right government, fell for the fourth consecutive month in February and some bankers expect bigger drops later in the year.

The State Statistics Institute reported yesterday that consumer prices rose 59.5 per cent in the 12 months ended February 28. The figure was 60.0 at the end of January and 72.6 per cent at the end of February 1989.

"The current inflation figure will likely show a bigger drop in the second half of this year," Nebil Erbu, assistant general manager of Tourism Investment and Commerce Bank in Istanbul, told Reuters.

Tayfun Beyazit, assistant general manager of private Yapi Kredi Bankasi AS, said "we expect a considerable fall in inflation this year. Our forecast for annual 1990 inflation is between 50 and 55 per cent."

"The reason the February inflation drop has been slight in price rises in public sector goods and services in the first two months of 1990," Beyazit said.

Turkey raised prices in February for state monopoly cigarettes and drinks, tea products, domestic air and train fares, electricity and medicines.

The increases were a bid to cut the budget deficit, which is forecast at 10.5 trillion lire (\$4.3 billion) in 1990. Large deficits have been blamed for the inflation of recent years.

Banking sources say the World Bank has given Turkey a letter saying the release of a \$200 million financial sector adjustment loan may be further delayed if Turkey fails to curb inflation significantly by April.

Meanwhile Iran and Turkey signed a wide-ranging trade pact on Friday at the end of a visit by Turkish Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut marked by calls on both sides for better relations.

The Iranian news agency Irna said the agreement covered co-operation in agriculture, electricity, sea, rail and road transport and manufacture of cars and buses.

"It was gladdening to feel in my meetings here a mutual political will to create a comprehensive and stable relationship between Iran and Turkey," Tehran radio quoted Akbulut as saying at the end of his four-day visit.

## Bank chief arrested

MONTE CARLO, March 5, (Reuters) The chairman of a small Monaco bank was arrested yesterday and charged with fraud and abuse of public funds, police sources said.

Jean Colley, chairman of the Industra Bank of Monaco (IBM), was taken into preventive custody and charged with misusing public funds and involvement in fraud.

His number two, Jean Ferry, was found dead on February 20. Police said it seemed to be suicide.

A court put the bank into receivership on February 2, at the request of the watchdog French Banking Commission, which had temporarily closed the bank following a police fraud inquiry involving a major client.

Police said IBM is missing an estimated \$0 billion (francs \$14 million). Four times its capital. The commission, which has supervisory powers over Monaco's banking system under a 1963 treaty, said IBM's finances had seriously deteriorated because of what it said were adventurous operations and large sums set against dubious loans. Commission officials said that the case, first in 1988 in Monaco, would not affect the stability of the principality's banking system.

## Interest rates

KUWAIT, March 5 (KUNA) Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait today.		
Period	Fixed	Offered
1 month	8-1/2	8-3/4
3 months	8-1/2	8-3/4
6 months	8-1/2	8-3/4
1 year	8-1/2	8-3/4

## Exchange Rates

Indian rupee	17.280
Sri Lanka rupee	7.210
Pakistan rupee	13.810
Bangladesh taka	3.600
US dollar	2.950
Pound sterling	4.045
UAE dirham	0.7983
Deutsche mark	17.185
Japanese yen	0.01902

## Algeria forms Islamic bank with Saudi partner

# Algiers to liberalise joint venture law

ALGIERS, March 5, (Reuters) Algeria has announced it was trying to liberalise its current joint venture law to attract foreign capital and spur economic recovery.

Prime Minister Mouloud Hamrouche gave details for the first time last night of joint venture provisions of a draft law on money and credit due to be debated this month in the national assembly.

The law is the most important remaining piece of economic reform legislation the government has drawn up to ease the country out of its economic crisis.

The Algerian news agency APS quoted Hamrouche as telling the central committee of the ruling National

Liberation Front that state firms, who now must hold at least 51 per cent of any joint venture, would be free to reach joint ventures with foreign partners provided there was no net loss of hard currency.

Bankers said that would clear the way for joint ventures controlled by foreign partners.

Previous attempts to make Algeria's joint venture law more attractive to foreign investors have been defeated by the national assembly as a threat to national sovereignty.

But the government argues foreign capital is necessary in a country chronically short of hard currency.

"We propose to trust our state enterprises... to freely defend their interests

with foreign partners under three conditions," Hamrouche said.

"No joint venture can carry out operations which result in the short, medium or long term in a net outflow of hard currency," he added.

He said joint ventures may not monopolise an economic activity or benefit from any exemption from the law and that capital inflows must be regulated by the council on money and credit and the banking control commission.

Hamrouche said debt service this year would account for 57 billion of total export earnings of between \$9 and 10 billion, while imports would total between \$8 and \$9 billion. This would leave a financing gap of around \$6 billion.

Hamrouche reiterated his government's refusal to reschedule the \$24 billion foreign debt, but said new borrowing would be stretched over a longer period to reduce the short-term repayment burden.

"We want to correct the perverse effects of short-term credit," he said.

"For this, we must change our foreign trade practices and oblige our firms and banks to reorganise and enter the medium-term market. This should reduce the present cost of borrowing."

Meanwhile, Algeria signed an agreement with a Saudi Arabian firm on Thursday setting up its first joint financial venture, an Islamic bank that will not give or charge interest.

The State Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development will hold 51 per cent of the bank to be called Albaraka Algerian Islamic Bank.

The rest of the proposed one billion dollar (\$125 million) capital will be held by the Jeddah-based Albaraka group of companies, which operates a strong offshore and investment firm around the world, as along Islamic lines.

Albaraka chairman Sheikh Saleh Al-Mudallal Khamis told Reuters that other Algerian partners and Islamic banks might join the bank in the future. He said he hoped it would start operations within three months.

"We will engage in all financial activities in accordance with our beliefs, and finance: trade, industry, agriculture and services," he said.

Instead of interest, prohibited by Islam, Islamic banks distribute dividends from profits. They are heavily involved in trade financing.

Algeria has sought to encourage foreign investment since launching economic reforms several years ago to ease an economic crisis caused in large part by falling oil and gas revenue and a heavy foreign debt.

There are currently around 10 joint ventures in the country and Albaraka Bank is the first in the financial sector. Albaraka also signed on Thursday an agreement to set up a joint-venture leasing company, also the first of its kind in Algeria, with the state Banque Extérieure d'Algerie.

## Business is picking up in UAE

# Overseas banks more optimistic

DUBAI, March 5, (Reuters) Foreign banks in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the most open country in the Gulf for onshore foreign banking, are optimistic that business is picking up but some are careful not to become over-extended again.

The foreign banking community in the UAE suffered along with the Arab banks during the severe recession of the mid-1980s when the oil price collapse and the Iran-Iraq war cast a cloud over the economic future of the region.

The continued peace, 18 months after the end of the war, and a widely predicted rise in oil price during the first half of the 1990s has brought some sunshine into bank offices.

"It's not a boom, but it's certainly an upturn," said one senior manager at an established regional foreign bank.

The UAE has the most liberal onshore banking regime for foreign banks in the Gulf, the bankers say. Trading in the UAE

dichotomy is completely open, corporate customers do not pay tax, and the government generally encourages the industry.

Bahrain, with its offshore bank facility, is host to the other large concentration of foreign banks in the Gulf and the UAE has often been compared as a competitor.

But bankers see the markets as distinct. "Bahrain is an offshore market is a domestic market with a lot of depth, which is what banks come here for," said a British banker.

Attention is focused on the two biggest emirates of the seven in the UAE federation.

Abu Dhabi's vast oil wealth, with the promise of higher oil prices, has triggered a mini-construction boom. There are hopes of financing suppliers for the government's planned large-scale projects to boost oil capacity.

Dubai, which also has oil wealth, has also become more attractive but for a different

reason. In the whole of the Gulf, it is the one city where economic trends are not almost completely linked to the oil-price cycle, although that is still highly important.

The free-market policies of the ruling Maktoum family have encouraged broad trading links with areas outside the Gulf, including India, Pakistan, and a growing air cargo trade in consumer goods between the Far East and European markets.

Dubai also has traditional trading links with Iran just across the Gulf. One of Britain's big four clearing banks, Lloyds Bank, is a leading player in high-margin financing of Iranian trade.

Other foreign banks would like to join in but Lloyds has had a representative office in Tehran since 1975 and without a similar operation Iran deals can be risky, other bankers said.

Financing of other trade in Dubai has been a mainstay for

most of the 28 foreign banks in the UAE and, with trade volumes rising, looks set to get better.

"Dubai is really where most people want to be," said another foreign bank manager.

Available statistics show returns on assets as generally good, with the biggest foreign banks in the UAE showing returns of two to 2.5 per cent in 1988.

Citicorp's Citibank, the only US bank to survive in the UAE after the downturn of the 1980s, came back into profit on this measure in 1988, the figures compiled by banks show.

Retail banking is also a growth area. The British Bank of the Middle East has a firm hold on the sector but other banks, such as Saudi clearing bank Barclays, are developing their retail side.

Some bankers remain cautious. "A lot of people are being lured into a false sense of security," said one manager.

## G-7 officials to meet in Japan

TOKYO, March 5, (AP) Deputy finance ministers and central bankers from the Group of Seven industrial nations will meet in Japan this week to discuss ways of stabilising foreign exchange markets, Kyodo news service reported today.

Quoting Finance Ministry sources, Kyodo said the meeting would be held somewhere in Japan on Wednesday. It corresponds to the G-7, or conference of deputy finance ministers and deputy central bank governors from the United States, Britain, West Germany, France, Canada, Italy and Japan, Kyodo said.

US Treasury Undersecretary David Malford and West German Vice Finance Minister Horst Koehler, however, are likely to skip the meeting, Kyodo said. It did not say why the two officials would not attend.

Officials of the Finance Ministry's international organisation division declined to comment on the report, saying that member nations customarily do not disclose the dates and sites of such G-7 meetings.

Japan's Central Bank has been reported intervening heavily to support the yen in recent days. The US dollar has gained 5.43 yen against Japan's currency in Tokyo trading since Feb 19. It closed in Tokyo today at 149.95 yen, its highest closing here since 151.30 yen last June 15.

## First time in six years Japan current account in red

TOKYO, March 5, (Reuters) Japan's current account dropped into deficit in January for the first time in six years, but economists in Tokyo said the shortfall was unlikely to continue.

The current account, the broadest measure of trade in goods and services, was \$636 million in deficit after a \$2.51 billion surplus a year earlier, the Finance Ministry reported on Friday.

Japan's previous deficit, of \$562 million, was recorded in January 1984.

"The drop was largely due to seasonal factors," said Nobuyuki Saji, senior economist at Nikko Securities Research Centre. "It's nothing to get carried about."

The open current account, which excludes trade in services, was \$636 million in deficit after a \$2.51 billion surplus a year earlier, the Finance Ministry reported on Friday.

Analysts said factors involved in the decrease, such as the initial depressing effects of a weaker yen on trade, higher oil prices and slowing auto exports, will continue at least for the first quarter of 1990.

But the deficit will not continue, said Yoshihiro Furukawa, an economist at the Yamashita Securities Research Institute. "Seasonally adjusted, it's still in surplus."

The seasonally adjusted figure for January was in surplus by some \$3 billion, economists noted.

Japan's New Year holidays in January and the lag in trade and outflow of funds due to travel overseas in the month usually contribute to a seasonally drop in the current-account balance, they added.

The holidays weaken exports, depressing the trade balance, while overseas travel makes a big dent in the balance of trade in services, which include tourism.

"There was also a drop in net long-term capital outflows in January, due to a sell-off of foreign bonds by Japanese investors," said Saji.

Long-term capital flows were in deficit by \$2.87 billion after a surplus of \$3.39 billion in December, 1989.

"But foreigners were also selling off Japanese stocks in anticipation of political uncertainty due to the (February 18 Japanese general) elections, so these counteracted each other somewhat," said Susumu Kato, a senior economist at Goldman Sachs International in Tokyo.

Exports fell to \$18.16 billion from 23.99 billion in December, but were little down from 19.83 billion a year earlier.

"Exports will continue to decline as a result of overseas transplants by Japanese companies," said Kato.

"The rate at which Japanese exports will slow from now depends largely on how the US economy does," Furukawa said. "But I expect it to continue its decline during the first half of 1990."

Imports were little changed at \$17.09 billion from December's \$17.69 billion, but were up from \$4.15 billion a year earlier.

"Robust Japanese consumption has not shown any major signs of waning, so I think growth in that area will continue," said Kato.

The sagging yen will maintain the J-curve effect on Japan's trade balance, analysts said.

## Zaire in a fix as mineral output dips

LUBUMBASHI, Zaire, March 5, (Reuters) Huge digging machines tip through Zaire's Shaba province, one of the world's richest mining areas, but a gaping hole is appearing in the government's coffers.

The open current account, which excludes trade in services, was \$636 million in deficit after a \$2.51 billion surplus a year earlier, the Finance Ministry reported on Friday.

The government-owned Gécamines Mining Company is the engine of the Zairean economy, but it faces severe financial difficulties due to the drop in production and a gloomy long-term price outlook, industry sources say.

Gécamines officials declined to be interviewed during a recent visit to their headquarters, but industry sources said

the company was worried about the level of investment required for it to reverse the output slide and remain competitive.

Unofficial figures show that Gécamines, or Generale Des Carrieres Des Mines, produced only 425,200 tonnes of copper in 1989, 90 per cent of target and the lowest in a decade.

The former Belgian company, which provides 70 per cent of Zaire's foreign exchange revenue, produced 439,500 tonnes of copper in 1988 and 473,700 tonnes in 1987. Zaire vies with neighbouring Zambia for the position of the fourth largest copper producer in the Western world.

tight state control, delegates were told at the conference organised by Unesco, the United Nations cultural agency.

One of the best ways to survive is to establish a joint venture with a rich media organisation from the West, ready with the dollars and technical expertise, Gyardas said.

Journalists from other East European countries said inadequate training and resources meant they needed quick help. Joint ventures were an obvious option.

"We are looking for partners in Western newspapers," said Wojciech Giedysinski, editor-in-chief of Poland's Tygodnik Solidarnosc newspaper.

But Jürgen Weiss, editor of the East German newspaper Wirt in Leipzig, said that after years of reading state-owned journals people favoured a totally independent press.

Gyardas believes the backing of a Western group will help persuade the Hungarian government to grant him a permanent frequency broadcasting licence.

"I am negotiating at the moment with Robert Maxwell for him to buy a 40 per cent stake in Napp television," he said.

He said other media giants, including Italy's

Silvio Berlusconi, were trying to establish a foothold in East Europe and 64 companies were interested in setting up private television stations in Hungary alone.

"They all realise how important it is to get in as quickly as possible, and we need them to survive," But busy at the conference were wary at the thought they may lose their hard-won freedom.

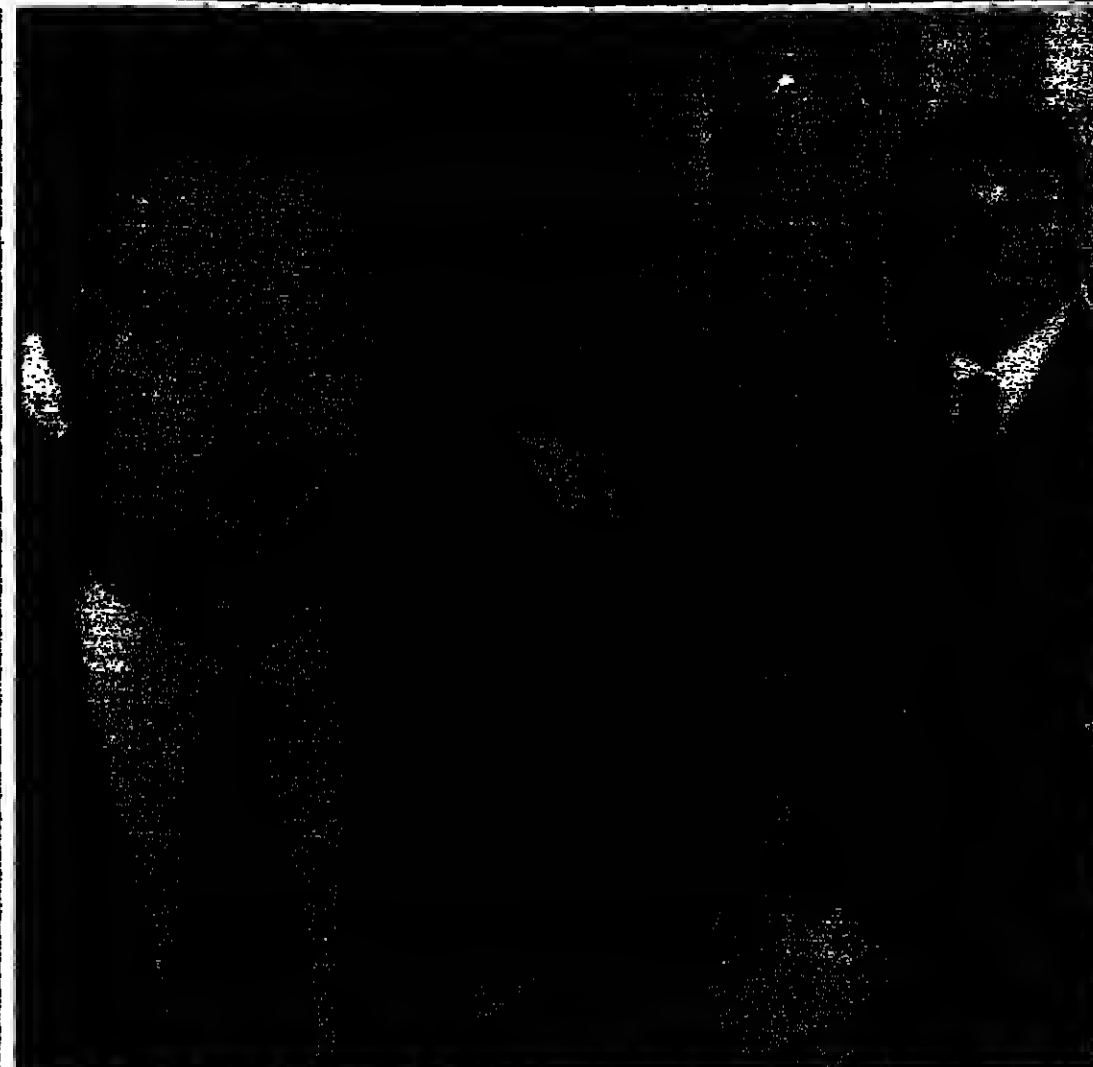
"We're not just left communist rule. There is definitely a danger of capitalism moving in, and not enough of us are aware of that," said Anna Mitrova, editor of the two-month old Romanian newspaper Free Youth.

Michael Hoy, managing director of the Times of London newspaper, owned by Rupert Murdoch, said his group had so far bought a 30 per cent stake in two Hungarian tabloids.

"There is a massive market in these countries, the opportunities are enormous but there so are the risks," he said.

"As the market economy grows, so will the papers we are involved in," he said, adding that fears he had scared among the delegates of a Western press monopoly were unfounded.

"We're prepared to help in a realistic way, but that's not taking advantage of any person or organisation," he said.



Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu enters a meeting room at his official residence for talks with leaders of his Liberal Democratic Party yesterday following two days of summit talks in Palm Springs, California with US President George Bush. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Criticism is mounting

# Kaifu under pressure

TOKYO, March 5, (Reuters) Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, back from a weekend US-Japan summit, faces renewed political pressure on the home front that could undermine promises he made to President George Bush to tackle bilateral trade problems.

Kaifu, in talks with senior members of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) today, reaffirmed his US pledge to change the structure of Japan's economy to reduce its annual \$30 billion trade surplus with the United States.

But criticism is mounting here that the promises Kaifu made to Bush in California could fall by the wayside as the prime minister struggles to control a weakening political situation at home.

While the ruling party won a majority in the lower house in recent polls, it still faces opposition in the opposition-controlled upper house, which can block passage of all key legislation with the exception of the budget.

Tadashi Doi, who heads the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), the largest opposition group, launched an attack on Kaifu in parliament today, saying he was ill-prepared to the hastily arranged summit with Bush.

"Prime Minister Kaifu, what in fact did you promise the President?" he bellowed in the lower house. "You made promises that the Japanese people have yet to hear about."

Kaifu told LDP officials earlier today that "the most urgent task (for Japan) was to co-operate seriously" in solving bilateral trade problems under discussion in so-called Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) talks, first launched last September.

The United States is pushing Japan to help slash its US trade surplus by introducing structural changes that would streamline the country's complex distribution system, reduce housing costs and bring down high prices for consumer goods.

Minister Ito, a well-known political commentator, said while the government may be able to draw up a general plan to introduce structural reforms, "there is no Rishi."

Japan's Central Bank has been reported intervening heavily to support the yen in recent days. The US dollar has gained 5.43 yen against Japan's currency in Tokyo trading since Feb 19. It closed in Tokyo today at 149.95 yen, its highest closing here since 151.30 yen last June 15.

Another daily, the Sankei Shinbun, said: "The problem is how the prime minister practices the present situation and, from this point on, how he will display leadership."

The Bush-Kaifu summit took place amid calls by the US Congress for tariffs of up to 100 per cent on some Japanese exports to the United States if progress is not made on opening Japanese markets. The two countries are due to issue an interim report on efforts to change Japan's import barriers practices in a also calling for greater access to Japanese markets for supercomputers, satellites and food products.

Asahi Shinbun warned of problems ahead for Kaifu and "difficulties in the domestic atmosphere."

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hood it will pass into law with a upper house controlled by the opposition.

Ito, a former secretary in the late prime minister Masayoshi Ohira, said: "Kaifu is in a difficult position after his meeting with Bush. There's no way he can keep the promises he made."

Some political observers say that the occasion for real dialogue will come when Noboru Takeuchi, the former Finance Minister and most influential LDP power broker, visits Washington next week.

"He may be powerful but he doesn't control the opposition," Ito remarked.

Kaifu's US trip is widely seen as an opportunity to enhance his reputation abroad while continuing to bow to the LDP bosses like Takeuchi who wield the greatest political power.

Economist Norihiko Tanaka said in an editorial in the Tokyo Shinbun: "Kaifu's quest for a new leadership is an opportunity to focus a direct conflict to the US President so that he could improve his political position within the ruling party."

In other criticism today, the Japanese press also voiced concern that Kaifu would not be able to keep the pledges he made to Bush.

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Carnival Queen Zeena Kaylani



Contestants line up for the pageant



King Momo stomping to the beat of the Lambada



Compères Ali Noor and Nirmala Janssen



Revellers bring in the Carnival spirit



Judges Khlada, Umit Bilge and Mrs Ali Noor

## Carnival fun by the Entertainers

ZEENA KAYLANI was crowned Carnival Queen at a fun filled evening to celebrate Carnival, the festival that precedes the season of Lent. In its maiden venture in Kuwait, The Entertainers provided an evening of good music, good food and all the elements of the Carnival to over 400 guests at the SAS Tent during the National Day holidays.

The evening albeit sponsored by Ashraf's was also equally prepped up by fine gifts provided by Jashanmal and Partners, Kuwait Airways and the Turkish Tourism Office in Kuwait.

Zeena walked away with KD 100 gift voucher from Jashanmal and gifts courtesy Kodak and Turkish Tourism Office. Runners

up Mariam and Sandra, were also given attractive prizes by the three sponsors.

The National Day jams had a lot of revellers stuck in traffic and although the evening got off to a late start the two performing bands Top Ranks and Perfect Strangers provided the kind of music that kept all of the guests stuck on the dance floor well until 4.30

am.

The highlight of the evening was the Carnival Parade led by King Momo who ushered in the spirit of Carnival in a manner that made him the cynosure of every woman's eyes. The ladies surrounded him in a crowded circle all swinging to the lifting beat of the Lambada, the famous Brazilian song of the State of

Bahia which is now famous around the world. The foot stomping and hip swinging went on for quite a while as the Top Ranks played the extended version.

Compères Ali Noor and Nirmala Janssen who both belong to the media made quite sure the parade went off without a hitch. Apart from the terrific music, what kept the

guests on the dance floor was more than 25 spot prizes which ranged from dinners for two at different five star hotels to free tailoring of a suit.

Lucky novelty dance winners walked away with two Kuwait Airways tickets to Bahrain and a lucky ticket holder won a free ticket to Larnaca and back, courtesy Kuwait Airways.

### WHAT'S ON

#### ARTS

**Sultan Gallery**  
INDIAN artist Shamima Farid is showing a collection of her latest works at the Sultan Gallery, near Rolls-Royce showroom. A wide selection of subjects are featured in the paintings of the artist, who has exhibited widely in Kuwait and overseas. However, this is Shamima's first solo exhibition in Kuwait. Open daily from 9 am to 1 pm and 4 to 8 pm.

**Watercolours of Arabia**  
Recent watercolours by Patricia Mills on exhibition at the studio, the Tareq Rajah Museum, Jabriya, Saturday thru Thursday 9.30 to 12 and 4.30 to 8 pm, from March 6 to 20, 1990. Tel: 5315397 or 5318060.

#### SOCIAL

**Bite n' Pieces**  
An interesting 8 week course in patchwork and quilting techniques. For details contact Tel. 5634663.

**Mushaira**  
PAKISTAN Arts Circle is organising a Mushaira (recitation of poets) of selected poets of Kuwait on Thursday, March 8, at Rumaithiya, at the residence of Masood Rasheed Lone at 9 pm sharp.

Invitation cards are available with the secretary of Pakistan Arts Circle, Hamid Mahmood, Tel. 4716258.

A renowned poet from Delhi is expected and will preside over the Mushaira. Families already registered are kindly requested to collect their cards.

#### British Council

MARCH 10-22 at the gallery: An exhibition of award-winning British published books arranged by The British Council in association with the Kuwait Bookshops Co. Ltd. Orders of books on display, may be ordered through the Kuwait Bookshops which will also offer other British-published books at special prices.

Programme of events: Saturday, March 10, 6.00 pm — opening programme with a lecture by Ms Julia Eccleshare, one of UK's top authority on children's literature; announcement of winners for the Bookworm Contest for children aged 7-15 and formal opening of the exhibition.

Wednesday, March 14, 6.00 pm — Film Showing: The Worst Witch — film fantasy adapted from the children's book, "The Worst Witch" by Jill Murphy. It is the magical tale of a school for witches where things have a habit of going slightly awry. 70 min.

Thursday, March 15, 10.30 am — Story telling by professional story teller. Wednesday, March 21, 6.00 pm — film showing Asterix in Britain. The Movie. Go back, far back in time to 50 BC when the Britons stopped fighting for a tea break at 4.00 pm and everyone drank hot water with a little milk because tea hadn't been discovered yet. 75 min.

Note: For all these events during the Children's Books Exhibition admission is free but please book in advance. The opening programme, however, is by invitation only. The exhibition is open to the public during regular library hours.

**Seminar**  
The seminar at the DAA, on Arabic and European Art in The Light of Zodiacal Symbolism has been postponed. It commenced on Feb 11 and will be given until March 11, 1990. Morning sessions on Sunday and Tuesday 11.00 am - 12.30 pm or evening session on Sunday and Tuesday 6.00 - 7.30 pm. Registration may be made by phoning the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyah. Tel: 2430826, 2453259.

#### Shakespeare's Macbeth

The London Shakespeare Group who have played in more than 50 countries and who are presently on a tour of Middle East, will present "MACBETH" at the Kuwait English School, Salwa, on 21st, and 22nd March at 8 am and 23rd March, 1990 at 6 pm. The cast includes actors and actresses with classical backgrounds who have appeared at London's prestigious National Theatre, various West End Theatres, Television and Radio. For ticket reservations & further information ring: 5740256/7, 5625316, 5718143, or 5731782.

**Prize distribution**  
THE annual prize distribution ceremony of the Bangladesh School, Kuwait, will be held on March 9, (Friday) at 6.30 pm at the Ibn Taimiah Secondary School, Hasawi.

All Bangladeshis are cordially invited.

**Daniella Desert Rally**  
The annual rally for Daos will take place on Friday, March 23. For registration, please call Henrik — Tel: 3727688/92 ext. 246 before Wednesday, March 14.

**Now at Messilah Beach Hotel Health Club**

LIFE Saving Courses with Royal Life Saving Society coach, Grade I Examiner will be commencing in March 1990. Ergocycle fitness computer tests and courses now available. Jazzercise/aerobics/staying power/yoga and ballet exercise classes also available. Swimming classes will commence March 1990.

**APPROB essay competition**  
ASSOCIATION of Pakistani Professionals and Businessmen (APPROB) has extended the last date of its essay competition from 15th March to 15th April. The essay competition on the topic "My role in building a better Pakistan" is being held on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the Pakistan Revolution.

Pakistani students in the age group of between 12-14 (juniors) and 15-18 (seniors) are invited to write their essays in Urdu or English, which should be between 1,000 to 1,500 words.

Four prizes of KD 100 each (2 each for Urdu and English) will be awarded to the best articles in each group with other consolation prizes for deserving participants.

The panel of judges is headed by Dr M.I. Saleem, Dr. Ali Jaffrey and Abdus Sattar Ghazali. For further details, contact: Tel: APPROB: 2425315 Fax: 5323751.

#### Farewell reception

THE Bangladesh Association, Kuwait, will arrange a reception to bid farewell to Azizur Rahman, the outgoing labour councillor at the Bangladesh embassy. The reception will be held on March 7, Wednesday, at 5.30 pm at the embassy premises. All Bangladeshis are cordially invited.

#### SPORTS

**Messilah Beach Hotel**  
YOU are invited to come and see some of the strongest men in Kuwait compete for the title "Kuwait's Strongest Man — 1990" or try your luck at one of the events: engine lift, weight toss, trailer load, truck pull, endurance or bench press.

Gates open at 9.00 am, prizes on entry tickets, garden fete, stalls, live bands, barbecue and entertainment.

For details contact Messilah Beach Hotel on 5624111 ext 739/751.

**IAC One-Act Play competition**  
THE IAC has decided to extend the closing date for the II One-Act Play competition, to be held during May, to March 9. All Indian associations wishing to take part are asked to fill out the appropriate registration form obtainable from the IAC office (3904817) or any one of the organising committee members.

**Contact**  
THE next meeting of Co-act, the ladies information group, will be held at Messilah Beach Hotel, 10 am, on Saturday, March 17. Newcomers particularly welcome. For further details tel. 3720197; 4874513; 5388105.

#### NIGHT CHEMIST

**Kuwait**  
Al Jahra Pharmacy  
Fahd Al Salem St., Al Awqaf Bldg.  
Al Ojail Pharmacy  
Mubarakia, Palestine Street  
Hawalli and Nugra  
Al Qatan Pharmacy  
Nugra, Al Othman Street  
Salmiya and Rumaithiya  
Al Raed Pharmacy  
Rumaithiya, Amman Street  
Fahadheel and Almadadi  
Adel Pharmacy  
Fahadheel Al Dabooos Street  
Farwaniya  
Al Taawon Pharmacy  
Main Street  
Jahra  
Al Abraj Pharmacy  
Daabul Al Khozai Street.  
Opp. to the Educational Dept.

### TELEVISION PROGRAMME

# KTV 1

- 9.30 Opeoing and Holy Quran
- 9.40 Sahab Al Kher News
- 9.50 Cartoon Serial
- 10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)
- 10.30 Shuaa Min Al Madhi: Arabic Serial (part 14)
- 11.30 Sabah Al Kher News
- 11.35 Challenges: Cultural Programme
- 12.15 Sabah Al Kher News
- 12.25 News Summary
- 12.35 Holy Quran and Closedown

## EVENING

- 4.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)
- 4.45 Saham Al Fadha: Cartoon Serial
- 5.15 The World of Tomorrow: Cultural serial
- 5.45 Night Chemists, Airlines and Official Advertisements
- 6.00 Wa Qala Hakeem: Historical Serial
- 7.00 Cultural Programme (part 3)
- 8.00 Madeio Kuwait: Local Information Programme, Prepared and presented by Dr Ali Al Damkhi
- 8.30 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.45 Illa Al Shabah Maa Al Tahey: Arabic Serial (part 9)
- 10.45 Al Burka: Weekly Serial
- 12.35 News Summary
- 12.40 The World Today via Satellite
- 1.05 Holy Quran and Closedown

# KTV 2

- 6.00 Opening announcement and Holy Quran
- 6.10 Diplodos. A cartoon

- series for Children.
- 6.30 The Little World of Dictmar Fill. "The Estuary... A look at aquatic animals that live in river estuaries. ... Pollution problems caused to those areas...."
- 7.00 Peaceable Kingdom. "The Chimp"
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 You and the Law. A weekly local informative programme on Law and regulations enforced in Kuwait.
- 8.45 Coming of Age. "A Wife In The Theatre". While Ginny is rehearsing, Dick has to take care of house affairs...!
- 9.15 The American Century. "The Pursuit Of Happiness." America, its successes and excesses, the struggle and laughter of its citizens; A journey back to the origins of modern lifestyle...
- 10.00 The Twilight Zone. The Hell Grammie... A drunkard has to seek the help of a doctor to cure him from his addiction instead the unevens the reality of the Doctor...
- 10.30 The Silk Route Of The Sea. "Junks...." A look at the eastern beaches of Chioa which are considered the starting point and the end of the Silk Route of the sea...
- 11.30 A Man Called "Hawk" "Intensive Care" A gag of criminals storm a hospital where they take a number of patients as hostages while searching for a woman who knows the secret of their accomplice...
- 12.15 News in Brief
- 12.30 Magazine D'Actualite

### CINEMA TODAY

Al Andulus	Sulaibikhat
World Gone Wild	King of the Streets
Al Salmiyah	Jeeb
Batman	Joga Jog
Al Hamra	Ahmedi Drive-in
Arabic film	Arabic film
Drive-in	
Big	
Al Firdous	
Teezah	
Fahadheel Open	
Malonc	
Al Jahra	
Nokol Shehzada	
Granada	
Challenge of Ninja	

#### PRAYERS

Fajr	4.49 am
Zohr	11.59
Asr	3.20 pm
Maghreb	5.51
Isha	7.07

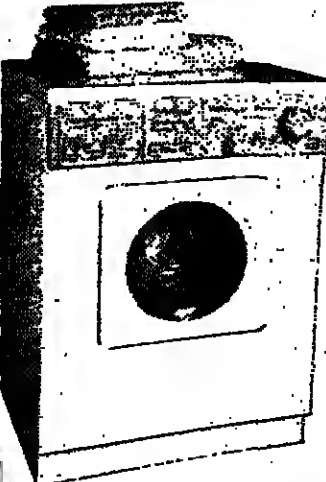
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Place: Masjid of the Religious Institute — Qurtuba Day: Every Tuesday.  
Time: After Maghrib prayer (around 6:00 pm)

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- 2) New flat in Maldan Hawalli - 2 bedrooms, with sitting room, central A/C. KD200/-

Contact Tel: 2423944

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QADISIYA, Area 4, Street 45, House 6. Three rooms with water, electricity and tele facilities for Pakistani and Indian families. Bus routes 16, 17, 18, 37, 14, 502, 506. Contact Mr. Sunny personally after 5 pm. (AT4-51763-3)

SALMIYA, next to Prince Studio, Bldg 25, two bedroom flat for one or two KD65. Tele, advantage. Contact 5628534, 5 - 9 pm. Bus routes convenient around. (AT2-51722-3)

MAIDAN Hawalli, Baghdad Street, near the Golden Bookshop. Room in a flat for an Indian couple with water, electricity and tele facilities to share with a Goan family. Rent KD60. Tele. 5637891. (AT4-51746-2)

FARWANIYA, behind the Holiday Inn. One room in a double bedroom flat for one or two Indian bachelors to share with a Goan family. Tele. Fernandes, 4814926, 4830708, 8.30 am - 3 pm. (AT4-51764-2)

JULEEB AL-SHIYOOK, on the main road, single room for 2 bachelors/single. Indians, preferably Goans to share with a Goan family. Tele. Mr. Francisco, 4812376, 7 am - 4.30 pm. (AT3-51745-3)

JABRIA, one room with tele facilities for a couple or 2 bachelors or working girls to share with a couple. Rent KD70. Tele. Shafie, 5319535. (AT1-51715-3)

QADISIYA, Area 9, near the co-operative, Al Hatten Street, House No. 28. 2 rooms for Indian and Pakistani families. Bus routes 16, 17, 18, 37, 14, 502, 506. Contact Mr. Sunny personally after 5 pm. (AT4-51763-3)

FARWANIYA, behind the Holiday Inn. Fully furnished one bedroom CAC flat with tele, available from 1st April to 30 June '90, for a couple only. Tele. 4762516 after 8 pm only. (AT3-51732-3)

**For Rent**  
SUFRA, Area 6, Street 5, House 7, Mulhaq with 2 bedrooms, large kitchen with cupboard, CAC, carpet, curtains and tele. Suitable for a family. Tele. 5314011. (AT4-51760-3)

MISHRAF, 2 storey deluxe villa, CAC with a garden, large car park, suitable for a European family. Rent KD750. Tele. 5327104, 2 - 6 pm. (AT4-51739-3)

RUMATHIYA, on the main road opp. Salwa, 1/2 villa — 2 bedrooms, huge lounge, dining room, bathroom and fitted kitchen. Own entrance and use of garden. Rent KD260. Tele. 4639789, 4819673, 8 am - 5 pm. (AT4-51728-3)

SALWA, Block 6, Street 3, House 48. Half villa - 5 bedrooms, large hall, 4 bathrooms, large kitchen with private entrance and the space for car park. Rent KD450, with water and electricity. Tele. 5657118. (AT3-51733-3)

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### LOST

PASSPORT No. B-570933 issued in Bangalore on 12/6/87 in the name of Mr Francis Fernandes. Finder please tele. 5316097, 5330030. (AT3-FF-HUS-3)

### FOR SALE

**Miscellaneous**  
MARANTZ 5 pieces system: stereophonic tuner, console amplifier, cassette deck, linear tracking turntable with interaudio Boss speakers. Tele. 4741551 (res) after 3 pm. (AT4-51736-3)

BRAND new items — Hitachi portable video recorder plus video camera CK850, KD200, Apple 2C computer with 14" colour monitor/software, KD250, National small fridge, KD30. Tele. 3712758. (AT4-51725-3)

1 BEDROOM flat, well maintained, CAC, with full furniture and electrical units for sale. Rent KD100. Tele. Mr Chris 4838200 ext. 2896, 8 am - 5 pm. (AT4-51761-3)

SIMMONS SDS9 electronic drum set in excellent condition, KD375, one. Kawai R110 digital composer, KD200, one, Yamaha 8 channel stereo mixer, KD100 one. Tele. Niranjani, 3719473, evenings only. (AT4-51737-3)

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SALWA, 2 bedroom flat with 2 bathrooms and transferable telephone for sale. Total KD1,500 or best offer. New rent KD250. Tele. 5331480-5387809, 7.30 am - 3 pm, 5643437, 5.30 - 8 pm. (AT4-51752-3)

DISHWASHER for sale. Tele. 5519203 ext 170, 5 - 8 pm. (AT4-51740-2)

**Cars**  
NISSAN Patrol, 4-wheel drive, 1985, manual 72000 kms, one door, white, insured up to October 1990, in very good condition. KD1,500. Tele. 4894196, 4 - 8 pm. (AT3-51734-3)

NISSAN Skyline 24 GT, 1982, grey, 86,000 kms, manual, AC in excellent condition. One owner from new. KD1000 one. Tele. 3982850 after 4.00 pm. (AT2-51719-3)

MERCEDES Benz 280SEL 1984, AC, automatic, white, 75,000 kms, sunroof, power windows, children lock proof in very good condition. KD5,500 cash. Tele. 2401083, 9 am - 1 pm, 4 - 6 pm. (AT4-51730-2)

NISSAN Skyline 24 GT, 1982, grey, 86,000 kms, manual, AC in excellent condition. One owner from new. KD1000 one. Tele. 3982850 after 4.00 pm. (AT2-51719-3)

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### NAME CHANGE

I, PESCHETTY VENKATESWARA RAO, holder of Indian passport No. S 533052 embraced Islam and changed my name to Abdul Aziz. (AT3-51747-2)

### MISCELLANEOUS

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MAID and babysitter required, full-time. Tele. 5640418. (AT3-GENUS-3)

MAID required for a European family with children, full-time to live-out. Shaab. Must speak English and have transferable residence. Tele. 2648376. (AT2-51725-3)

### Wanted

QUALIFIED accountant, Indian, with master degree in accounts, 8 years experience in Kuwait as financial accountant and with knowledge of computers, looking for a suitable job in accounts. Tele. Ravindran, 5747287. (AT2-51720-3)

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### ARAB TIMES

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## Breland to wait for undisputed world title

LONDON, March 5, (Reuters): Mark Breland may have consigned broken Briton Lloyd Honeyghan to history after Saturday's crushing World Boxing Association (WBA) welterweight title defence.

But he will have to wait for the undisputed crown he craves.

Joe Fariello, the American's trainer, said yesterday that World Boxing Council (WBC) champion Marlon Starling had backed away from a lucrative title fight to unify the two crowns.

"Starling has pulled away from another clash, even though he was offered \$850,000, he told reporters.

Breland, who demolished Honeyghan on Saturday in a completely one-sided fight that lasted just over eight minutes, lost his WBA title to Starling in August 1987 and only won the crown back after it was subsequently vacated in 1989.

Only Starling has beaten Breland as a professional. That defeat — a surprise knockout in the 11th round — led to widespread criticism of a man who had been compared to the great Sugar Ray Leonard and Breland is still acutely aware that he has yet to convince the public of his abilities.

Saturday's triumph may boost him, although many may suspect Honeyghan was already a one shot fighter after a disastrous WBC title defeat to Starling in Las Vegas in February 1989.

"With Starling it was an emotional thing," Honeyghan said. "Against Breland I have never felt so helpless in the ring."

Honeyghan, the former undisputed champion, hit the floor eight times — twice after stumbling — and was given a total of five mandatory eight counts by the Panamanian referee.

"The boxer left to shouts of 'what a load of rubbish' with his career in tatters.

"When he got hit everything went and when you legs go like that it's time to get out," said Breland.

"His whole expression changed after that first jab. Maybe it's time for him to do something else."

Fariello said of the first round punch: "It's the fourth time I've seen Mark score a knockdown with a jab. The referee told me afterwards he had never seen harder jab."

Honeyghan's manager Mickey Duff said: "Breland has a new viciousness about him now and I would back him against Starling with my life."

"Breland is the most underestimated puncher in the world. Pound for pound he's better than Mike Tyson."

# Soviets win European Indoor Championships

## Sarvari clinches historic double

GLASGOW, March 5, (Agencies): Unlike Sarvari became the first athlete to win the sprint double at the European Indoor Championships yesterday when she took the 200 metres title.

No man or woman had ever won both titles at the same championships before.

West German Sarvari, who took the 60 metres title on Saturday, again won in style by setting the year's fastest time of 22.96 seconds.

"Give Linford Christie our regards and tell him we think the track is lovely," Sarvari said in a cheeky reference to the men's 60 metres champion's repeated complaints about the surface.

Sarvari's double was the highlight of a splendid performance by the West German team who finished second only to the Soviet Union in the medals table.

The Soviet squad captured eight golds, and 15 medals in all, while West Germany won six golds in a total of 10 medals.

The Soviets finished with a flourish, winning both the men's and women's 60 metres hurdles.

Igor Kazanov, the 1987 European Cup sprint hurdles champion, won the men's event in 7.52 seconds, ahead of Britain's Tony Jarrett.

Then Lyudmila Narozhilenko, the world record holder, won the women's final in 7.74, one tenth of a second ahead of France's Monique Ewange-Epe.

Romania's world record holder Doina Melinte easily won the women's 1,500 metres title from Swiss Sandra Gasser, returning to international competition after serving a two-year suspension for doping.

"Two years have gone very



Gurina (No.333) on her way to victory in the women's 800 metres. (Reuters wirephoto)

quickly," Gasser said. "I feel in very good shape. Melinte didn't beat me by that much."

Melinte, who clocked four minutes 9.73 seconds to Gasser's 4:10.13, said her victory had been as comfortable as it looked.

"Sandra Gasser was no

problem," she said.

East German Beate Anders shattered the 12-minute barrier



Herold (No.223) crosses the finish line to win the men's 1,500 metres. (Reuters wirephoto)

for the women's 3,000 metres walk, reducing Australian Kerry Saxby's year-old world record to 11:59.36.

"I knew when I went into the final lap that I would get the record," Anders said.

Anders' gold was one of only two titles won by the tradition-

ally powerful East German side. Their other victory went to Olympic bronze medalist Jens-Peter Herold in the men's 1,500 metres.

The most popular winner of the day was Scot Tom McKean, running for Britain, who led from start to finish to win the

men's 800 metres.

"If I had lost you would have said McKean has blown it again," McKean, who has a history of failure in major championships, told reporters.

"But I am trying to change the headlines now. No win has ever given me the same sort of feeling."

World record holder and pre-race favourite Thomas Schonlebe pulled a hamstring in the final of the men's 400 metres. The race was won by Norbert Dobelet of West Germany in 46.08 seconds, a mere hundredth of a second ahead of East German Jens Carlowitz.

Reigning world indoor champion Rodion Gataulin of the Soviet Union cleared 5.80 metres to take the pole vault gold medal, ahead of compatriot Grigory Egorov.

Jens-Peter Herold of East Germany just held off fast-finishing Spaniard Fernan Cacho to take the 1,500 metres title. Herold's time was 3:44.39, while Cacho clocked 3:44.61.

The Soviet Union also had success in the women's 400 metres, where Marina Shmonina went one better than her second-placed finish in the same event last year. Among those left in her wake was 1989 champion Sally Gunnell of Britain.

Artur Partyka of Poland won the men's high jump, clearing 2.33 metres. European indoor champion Dietmar Moegenburg of West Germany had to be satisfied with a share of the bronze medal, with countryman Gerd Nagel.

Liubov Gurina was another Soviet athlete to strike gold in the 800 metres, clocking 2:01.63.

## Only I can take on Kasparov: Karpov

World No. 2 confident of beating Timman

KUALA LUMPUR, March 5, (Reuters): Former world chess champion Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union says he is confident of beating Jan Timman of the Netherlands in the month-long World Candidates' Final that begins here on Thursday.

The winner in the Malaysian capital will challenge current champion Gary Kasparov of the Soviet Union for the world title.

"I believe I am the only player who can take on Kasparov. Timman has no chance," said Karpov, world champion from 1975 to 1985 and now ranked second.

"Timman is very experienced but his problem for many years is that he becomes nervous at the crucial stages," he said.

Kasparov took the title from Karpov in 1985. They fought to a 12-12 draw in a draw in a rematch in Spain in 1987 and the defending champion retained the title.

Karpov and Timman, world number three, have met 50 times in the past 22 years. Karpov has won 16 times, Timman has taken three and the rest were drawn.

Timman has refused to be drawn into any pre-match show of confidence but told reporters



Karpov: aiming for revenge match

he had learned from his previous defeats to Karpov.

"The match should be interest-

ing and I am playing better than before," he said.

An official of the World Chess

Federation (Fide) said that as both players knew each other well there would be no need for an appeals committee, a rare move for such matches.

"I expect the match to be friendly. We are good friends," Karpov said of Timman.

"We are on good terms. To say we are friends would be an exaggeration but I don't expect any conflicts," Timman told reporters.

Helping Timman prepare for the match are grandmaster Ulf Andersson of Sweden, Gyula Sax of Hungary and Vlastimil Hort of the Soviet Union.

On Karpov's side will be Soviet grandmasters Igor Zaitsev and Oleg Romanishin and international master Mikhail Podgaets as well as American grandmaster Ron Henley.

Gudmundur Arnlaugsson of Iceland is the chief arbiter for the match, which will be over 12 games. The winner will be the first to score 6.5 points with one point awarded for the winner of each game and half a point for a draw.

The winner receives 187,500 Swiss francs (\$125,000) while the loser gets 112,500 (\$75,000).

## Jansher takes title

MADRID, March 5, (Reuters): World champion Jansher Khan won the Spanish Open squash title yesterday, overcoming Australian Rodney Martin in the final after dropping the first game.

Martin, who dispatched second seed Jahangir Khan in straight games in Saturday's semifinals, battled hard against Jansher but eventually succumbed 13-15 15-6 15-3 15-12.

"It was not easy and I believe the key of the match was that after losing the first game I did not lose my confidence," Jansher said.

Third seed Martin, ranked fifth in the world, said his concentration had been spoiled by thinking too much about winning. Jahangir has replaced fellow Pakistani Jansher, his arch-rival, as world number one in the latest official rankings.

But Martin, who took just 43 minutes to beat Jahangir on Saturday, reserved special praise for the younger Jansher.

"The difference between Jansher and Jahangir is that Jansher is much quicker," the Australian said. "But anyway I think I can beat them."

## Daniel finishes on top again

MAUI, Hawaii, March 5, (Reuters): Beth Daniel birdied the 18th to beat Rosie Jones and Laura Davies of Britain by one stroke in the \$500,000 Women's Kemper Open yesterday making it back-to-back wins for Daniel on the LPGA's Hawaiian swing.

Daniel began the day two shots behind third-round leader Mitzi Edge but her two-under-par round of 69 lifted her to victory with a one-under total of 283 at the Wailea resort.

Davies and Jones both shot seven-par 71s to finish at 284. "This feels unbelievable," said Daniel, who also won last week's Hawaiian Open. "When you get on a roll like this you just go with it. I have always been a streaky player and I am definitely on a hot streak right now."

Daniel was tied for 35th place, nine shots off the pace after 36 holes of the tournament. On Saturday she scored the low round of the week, a five-under-par 66, to begin her move up the leaderboard.

## Johnson takes Suns to win over Cavaliers

PHOENIX, March 5, (AP): Kevin Johnson celebrated his 24th birthday yesterday by scoring 12 of his 30 points during a 135-5 third-period run as the Phoenix Suns beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 108-96 for their club-record 17th consecutive victory at home.

Tom Chambers added 27 points and 12 rebounds for the Suns, who bettered the previous single-season team mark for homecourt wins set in 1977-78.

Cleveland, which lost its sixth straight road game, was led by Brad Daugherty's 21 points.

Bulls 118, Celtics 114: Michael Jordan got 12 of his 36 points in the fourth quarter, and NBA free throw leader Larry Bird missed a foul shot with 11.6 seconds left and a 3-pointer with three seconds remaining yesterday as the Chicago Bulls held on for their eighth straight win, 118-114 over the Boston Celtics.

The winning streak is the Bulls' longest since 1980-81. They have won their last three road games and avenged a 102-100 loss to Boston in Chicago on Nov. 4, in their only previous meeting. Boston's four-game winning streak, which matched their longest of the season, ended.

Pistons 111, Pacers 106: Detroit guards Joe Dumars and Isiah Thomas scored 23 points each and the Pistons held Indiana scoreless for 3:26 down the stretch to post a 111-105 victory over the Pacers.

It was Detroit's fifth straight victory, 18th in 19 games, and 10th in a row at home. Indiana lost its third straight.

Chuck Person, who led the Pacers with 29 points, hit two free throws to pull Indiana within three points, 106-103, with 25.7 seconds remaining. But Mark Aguirre and Thomas combined to hit five free throws, clinching Detroit's victory.

Standings of National Basketball Association after games played on Sunday (absolute under won, lost, winning percentage, games back)

Eastern Division

Atlantic Division

Central Division

Western Division

Midwest Division

Pacific Division

Southwest Division

Northwest Division

South Central Division

North Central Division

Southwest Division

Northwest Division

South Central Division

North Central Division

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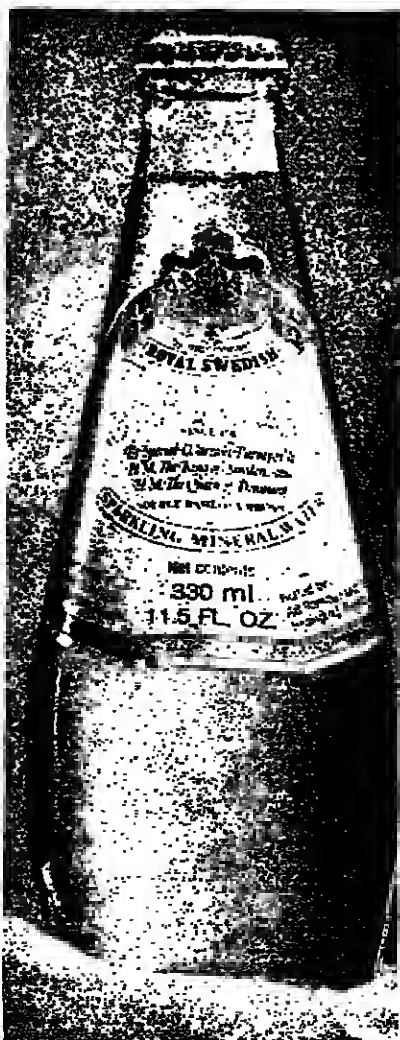
Southwest Division

Northwest Division

South Central Division

North Central Division

## The history behind a drop of water



Water has always been of vital importance to Man's health and well-being. Without water, no life can exist. The water from certain springs has also been regarded as particularly conducive to good health.

For us, it all began one early spring morning in 1701, when Professor of Medicine Johan Jacob Dobelius tasted a drop of water from a spring in southernmost Sweden, in Ramlosa not far from Helsingborg. He had heard the local population praise the spring for its salutary qualities.

He himself was so delighted with this fine-tasting and beneficial water that shortly thereafter he established a spa by the spring. This

spring, with its natural mineral water, was to acquire great importance, achieve wide fame, and become one of Sweden's national assets.

Professor Dobelius paid his respects to the Royal Household by inaugurating the spa on 17 June 1707, the birthday of King Charles XII. Today, both the Swedish and the Danish Royal Households have honoured us by making Ramlosa Purveyors by Appointment.

At that time, "taking the waters" was mainly a privilege of the upper classes. It was a way of caring for both body and soul. In the 18th and 19th centuries, it was in fact believed that the waters from the spring at Ramlosa could cure most ailments.

## Woosnam triumphs in Mediterranean Open

## Norman wins Doral Open in playoff

MIAMI, March 5, (Reuters): Greg Norman chipped in from 24 feet on the first extra hole for an eagle to win the \$1.4 million Doral Open golf tournament yesterday in a playoff over Mark Calcavecchia, Paul Azinger and Tim Simpson.

Norman played a spectacular final round as he shot a course record 10-under-par 62 to finish at 15-under-par 273 on the Blue Monster course at the Doral Country Club.

Counting the eagle in sudden-death, Norman was 12-under-par for his 19 holes yesterday.

Norman, who began the day seven strokes behind overnight leader Azinger, was the first golfer in the clubhouse at 273.

Calcavecchia, who won the British Open last July, came along a few minutes later. He needed a par-4 on the final hole to stay one stroke ahead of Norman. Instead, a poor tee shot led to a bogey and he had to settle for a 65 and a 273 total.

Simpson birdied three of the last five holes including one at the 18th or his second straight round of 66 to join Norman and Calcavecchia at 273. On the last hole, he struck a great 4 iron shot to within 13 feet and made the putt.

Then it was up to Azinger, who was 16-under-par on the last tee and in the final group of the day.

His drive was into the left rough but he played a strong 7 iron over the ridge of the water to the left fringe. His chip was strong, however, and ran nine feet past the cup. His putt for par



Norman collected \$252,000

and the win rolled over the right edge of the hole.

On the par-5, first playoff hole, Azinger and Calcavecchia were both on the green but a long way from the hole and Norman and Simpson were off the back edge.

Azinger and Calcavecchia



Woosnam: bounces back for win

missed their eagle putts before Norman chipped and watched his ball roll softly into the cup.

Simpson using his putter, saw his eagle try hit the lip of the cup and spin out.

It was the eighth PGA Tour victory for Norman and was

worth \$252,000. Earlier this year, he won the Australian Masters in a close duel with Britain's Nick Faldo.

"I came out today with the intention of shooting a 64," Norman said. "I wasn't nervous, not even on the 17th and 18th holes.

It was a day when everything clicked."

Norman made an eagle at the 528-yard eighth hole by holing a sand wedge shot from 90 yards and also had eight birdies in a bogey-free round.

The putt that saved the day for the Australian was on the final hole of regulation. His approach was on the left bank of the green, not too far from the water. His pitch shot sent him some 24 feet past the hole.

But he made the putt to save his par and earn a chance to claim victory.

And in Marbella, Spain, Ian Woosnam bounced back after losing his lead to win his first tournament of the new season in the rain-shortened Mediterranean Open at Las Brisas.

A four-hour delay followed a wash-out on Saturday and officials decided to reduce the event to 54 holes, with Woosnam shooting 74 for a six-under-par 210 tally.

He ended two strokes clear of Argentina's Eduardo Romero, round in 71, and Spain's Miguel Martin, who shot 74, with Irishman Christy O'Connor Junior firing his third successive 71 to finish fourth on 213.

Woosnam, who started two ahead after opening with two 68s, lost his lead within three holes to Martin.

The Spaniard covered the stretch in par but Woosnam bogeyed the second then hooked into a lake to run up a double-bogey seven at the next.



## Stich beats Masur to win first tournament

MEMPHIS, Tenn., March 5. (Reuters): Unseeded Michael Stich of West Germany captured his first tournament title yesterday with a 6-7 6-4 7-6 victory over sixth-seeded Australian Wally Masur in the \$250,000 Memphis indoor tournament.

"It's a great feeling," Stich said about collecting his first championship. "I

don't really know, now, what happened out there. But I'm sure I'll recognise what happened some days from now."

Stich, ranked 80th, is a talented player who comes to the court with a smart game plan. He adds to that some very deceptive shot making — which makes him hard to read.

The 21-year-old West German says he

plays for himself, but would not mind some notice back home. Unlike better known compatriots Boris Becker and Carl Uwe Steeh, Stich stayed in school rather than join the Tour early.

"There aren't that many German players who have won Grand Prix titles. Maybe I'll get some recognition," said Stich.

Masur looked ready to become the third straight sixth seed to win this tournament, following the successes of Andre Agassi in 1988 and Brad Gilbert in 1989. But the 'sixth seed' charm failed to keep Stich down.

Masur went up 4-2 in the first set, but Stich broke back with the Australian serving for the set in the ninth game.

## Timisoara boycott Securitate opponents

BUCHAREST, March 5. (Reuters): A rugby team from Timisoara, cradle of Romania's December revolution, boycotted a match in Bucharest yesterday against a team once linked with the hated Securitate secret police.

The National Rugby Championship match between Dynamo Bucharest, sponsored by the Interior Ministry, and Politehnica Elcon-Timisoara, was called off after the Timisoara team refused to play.

At kickoff time, all 15 Timisoara players, wearing black armbands, appeared on the field for one minute, and then left.

Timisoara captain Alexandru Domokos told the referee their short presence was a homage to the heroes of the revolution in December 1989 when dictator Nicolae Ceausescu was overthrown.

"The team, the leadership of the club and the coaches decided to protest against the crimes committed by the Securitate by boycotting the match," Domokos said.

For many Romanians, "Dynamo" is synonymous with activities carried out by member of the Securitate, a former department of the Interior Ministry.

The Securitate is accused of being responsible for hundreds of deaths during the December uprising.

Timisoara, where the revolution began, is now the scene of a two-month-long trial involving Securitate members.

In Brisbane, Australia today named a complete unknown, back-rower Garrick Morgan, in their squad for the Hong Kong Rugby Union Sevens later this month.

Morgan has yet to play in the first team of his club Brisbane Souths; but within a week the 20-year-old has been named in the Queensland squad for a tour of Western Samoa and Fiji and now the nine-man squad for the world's leading sevens tournament.

Australia, beaten by New Zealand in last year's final, will be captained by fly-half Michael Lynagh and will include winger David Campese, the world's leading Test try-scorer, and former Wallaby captain Simon Poidevin.

Squad: Michael Lynagh (captain), David Campese, Tim Horan, Jason Little, Peter Slatery, Steve Tuynman, David Wilson, Simon Poidevin, Garrick Morgan.

And in Palmerston North, New Zealand, Fiji-born Paula Bale has won a spot in New Zealand's Rugby Union Sevens squad that will defend its crown in Hong Kong later this month.

Bale made a major contribution to Canterbury's defeat of Auckland in the final of the national tournament yesterday.

Auckland, who has been the top province in the 15-man game since 1986, were aiming for their third consecutive title but were overruled 26-16 in the fast-moving version where speed and ball-handling skills are highly valued.

Canterbury were runners-up in the previous six tournaments.

## Navratilova takes title

### Sukova extends world No. 2



Navratilova: held off Sukova

INDIAN WELLS, Calif., March 5. (Reuters): Top-seeded Martina Navratilova squandered a match point and dropped her first set of the year but still beat third seed Helena Sukova 6-2 5-7 6-1 yesterday in the final of the \$350,000 Indian Wells women's tennis tournament.

Navratilova, winner of her first two events this year, had won 27 consecutive sets in 1990 and was one point from a 28th at 5-2 in the second set when Sukova lifted her game and won 22 of the next 27 points to push Navratilova into a third set.

Sukova saved the match point with an easy overhead winner, which she set up with a backhand approach, and Navratilova, who had controlled the match, then lost her concentration until the beginning of the third set.

Freshly re-focused, Navratilova raced to a 4-0 lead in the third set, serving and volleying with patience and precision as she kept the 10th-ranked Czechoslovak off balance.

Sukova offered some brief resistance when she broke

Navratilova in the fifth game of the third set but was unable to gain any momentum, losing the next two games at 30.

Navratilova, who earned \$70,000 for the 96-minute victory, said she had trouble with the wind but admitted that Sukova took charge at the end of the second set.

"Easy shots became an adventure. It was tough to hit the ball it was so windy. Then in the second set she just started serving really well, a couple points here and a couple there, and we were in the third set," Navratilova said after claiming her third straight tournament victory.

Sukova, who had beaten Navratilova in two of their last three meetings but is only 4-23 lifetime against the Czechoslovak-born American, said Navratilova was tougher when it mattered most.

"Slowly, in the third set, I was losing it," said Sukova, who received \$28,000. "She was much tougher at that stage than I was, and that made the difference."

## Sainz seeks change of luck

LISBON, March 5. (Reuters): Spaniard Carlos Sainz needs to end his run of bad fortune in the Portuguese rally if he is to repeat the thrilling world championship duel he had with Frenchman Didier Auriol in Monte Carlo in January.

Auriol, driving a Lancia, won the opening event of this year's championship in Monte Carlo by 52 seconds and the margin between him and Sainz was fairly greater.

Their battle resumed on Tuesday after a break of nearly six weeks caused by the cancellation of the Swedish Rally in February because of flooded roads.

But Sainz, whose three previous outings in the Portuguese Rally all ended in mechanical failure, admits: "I never had much luck in (Portugal)."

The Spaniard can expect plenty of support from his fellow countrymen, crossing the border to cheer on his Toyota over the rally's 2,060 kilometres and 38 timed stages.

World champion Massimo Biasion, seeking his third successive title, will start favourite in his Lancia. The Italian, who won the Portuguese Rally in 1988 and 1989, finished third in Monte

Carlo.

"I'll do everything to win in Portugal," he said. "It's important for me to restore my image, which suffered a bit at Monte Carlo."

The strong Finnish contingent will also be looking to come back after poor performances in Monte Carlo.

Paris-Dakar winner Ari Vatanen (Mitsubishi) and former world champion Hannu Mikkola (Mazda) both pulled out with engine trouble and Juhani Kankunen drove his Lancia off the road.

About 100 drivers will start

from Jamor, a sports complex near Lisbon. The usual venue at Estoril, site of the Formula One Grand Prix, was ruled out by a legal dispute between the owners and the Portuguese Automobile Club.

The event begins on Tuesday with technical tests and prologue before Wednesday's 731-km first leg on asphalt to Povoa do Varzim, north of Oporto.

The second leg involves a loop inland and the third takes the drivers to Viseu in central Portugal. The 16-hour final section ends on Saturday in front of the casino at Estoril.



Carlos Sainz with his co-driver.

## Frost edges Susanto for first prize

HELSINKI, Finland, March 5. (AP): Morten Frost of Denmark, the world's top badminton player, beat Hermawan Susanto of Indonesia yesterday, 15-13, 4-15, 51-9, and won the \$35,000 UBF Open World Grand Prix tournament in Helsinki.

The 31-year Frost claimed a first prize of \$2,250 and avenged a loss in his previous meet with Susanto last September in Hong Kong.

Leading 10-9 in the deciding set, Frost had thoughts of abandoning the match after pulling a

calf muscle at 9-8. However, he decided to continue playing flat-footed. Helped by a few mistakes by his inexperienced opponent, Susanto the Dane won the last points of the match.

Frost downed Jari Eriksson of Finland, Jorgen Tuovesson of Sweden, Wei Yan of Australia and Darren Hall of England on his way to the final while the 22-year-old Susanto beat Jonas Herrgardh of Sweden, Claus Thomsen of Denmark and Anders Nielsen of England, after getting a walkover in his first

match.

Other results, finals: Ladies' singles: Pernille Nedergaard, Denmark, beat Christine Magnusson of Sweden 12-10, 11-0.

Men's doubles: Iway Hendra and Bagus Setiadi of Indonesia beat Max Gandrup and Thomas Lund of Denmark 18-17, 14-18, 15-9.

Ladies' doubles: Maria Bengtsson and Christine Magnusson, Sweden, beat Gillian Clark and Gillian Gowers, England 15-12, 15-12.

## Enthusiasts pay \$1,000 to play Lendl

FARMINGTON, Connecticut, March 5. (AP): Sixteen tennis enthusiasts at the Farmington Farms Racquet Club had a formidable — and expensive — opponent this weekend.

Each paid \$1,000 for the privilege of playing Ivan Lendl, the No. 1 ranked player in the world. Proceeds went to the Fideco Guide Dog Foundation of Bloomfield, Connecticut, which trains dogs for the blind.

Letty Landry of West Hartford said she expected to face the Lendl she'd seen on television — an iceman whose steely on-court style has chilled opponents. But the Lendl she met Saturday was charming and offered friendly tips.

Perhaps that's because for Lendl, playing for a charity is recreation, not work.

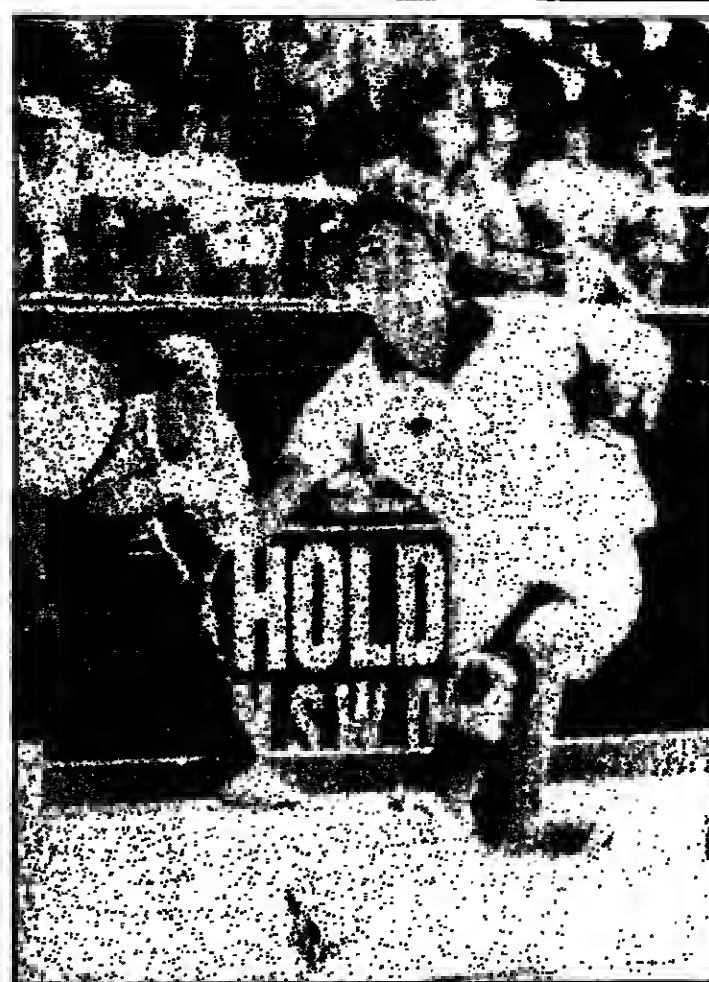
"When you see me on TV, I am in my office," he said. "I am concentrating on my job."

Charles Kaman, founder of Fideco and president of Kaman Corp. in Bloomfield, said it was Lendl who suggested that he play in the fundraiser.

"He contacted us because he is interested in German Shepherds," Kaman said.

Saturday's event raised more than \$17,000 for Fideco, said Julie Augeri, spokesman for the foundation. About 50 spectators paid \$75 apiece to watch the matches, she said.

The Czechoslovak-born tennis champ has four dogs at his house in Greenwich, Conn. Lendl said he plans to breed German Shepherds and will offer some to Fideco, which trained 37 pairs of dogs and owners last year.



Krickstein: received \$50,000

## Krickstein outlasts Mayotte for crown

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz., March 5. (Reuters): Aaron Krickstein beat fellow-American Tim Mayotte 6-3 6-4 yesterday to take the \$100,000 first prize in the Scottsdale Classic men's round-robin exhibition.

Mayotte, who has never lost to the seventh-ranked Krickstein in official tour competition, received \$50,000 as runner-up.

American Jim Courier took third place, worth \$30,000, by defeating Spain's Emilio Sanchez 7-6 2-6 6-3.

Krickstein's topspin passing shots and deep groundstrokes kept Mayotte at bay and rescued Krickstein from potential danger. At 2-2 in the first set, Krickstein fought off five break points, a confidence boost which helped him the rest of the way.

Krickstein broke for a 4-2 lead when Mayotte missed a volley, and held serve to win the set 6-3.

Mayotte dropped serve in the first game of the second set and again at 3-1 as Krickstein passed him mercilessly. At 4-1, Mayotte got his only break of serve to get back to 4-2 but Krickstein held on to his advantage and served out the match with his only ace of the day.

"I hit my forehand pretty well today and Tim didn't serve as well as he'd have liked to," said Krickstein, who moved back into the top 10 last year for the first time since 1985.

"If I could ever get my serve going, I think I could be a lot better. I don't win any points on my serve hardly at all."

Mayotte said Krickstein "was able to make some really good passing shots. He's such a tough competitor. I didn't have that much to counter with."

Krickstein reached the finals by compiling a 2-1 record in the Cholla Group with Mayotte was 2-1 in the Saguro standings.

In an earlier match yesterday for seventh place, seventh-ranked Andre Agassi beat Jay Berger 7-5, 6-4.

Agassi, the pre-tournament favourite, finished with a 2-2 record and won \$10,000 but he was given \$150,000 in appearance money. Berger got \$5,000.

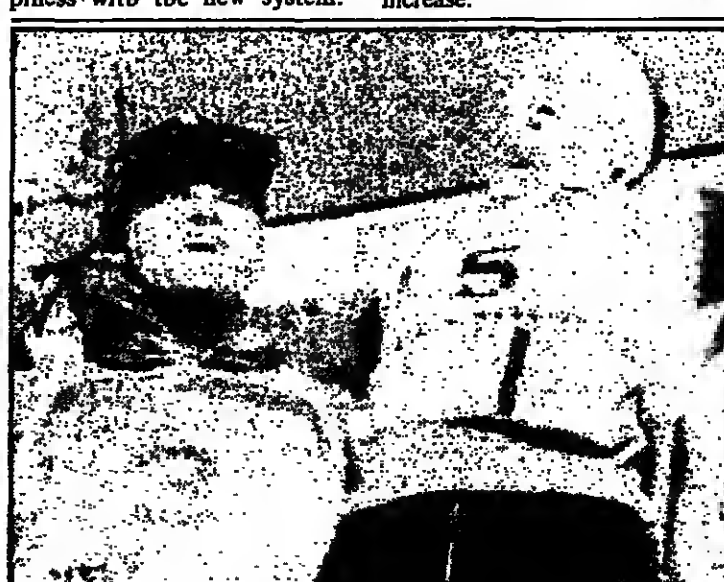
Complaints have centred on the number of mandatory tournaments each has to play.

"McEnroe and Lendl have to complain about everything. Their criticism is unwarranted," said Brad Gilbert after adding \$65,000 to his earnings for winning the ABN world tennis tournament yesterday.

Gilbert, nine-year veteran on the world tour, said "so many things have improved. It is good."

Not everybody agrees, however. "There's way too many tournaments," McEnroe has said. A reduction "is what we fought for and that is exactly what they did not do."

Swiss Jakob Hlasek said the glut in tournaments largely accounted for the earnings increase.



Bittner (centre) with Tomba (left) and Strolz. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Zurbriggen secures 4th world title

VEYSONNAZ, Switzerland, March 5. (AP): In a fitting climax to a remarkable career, Swiss ace Primus Zurbriggen yesterday clinched the World Cup Ski Championships on native soil and secured a place in the record books by chalking up his fourth title.

West Germany's Armin Bittner made certain of a second straight victory in the overall slalom competition when he cruised home in a combined heat time of 1 minute 33.81 seconds.

In his fourth slalom win of the season, Bittner finished 26 seconds ahead of Italy's Alberto Tomba, who made a glorious return to World Cup slalom after being sidelined since December with a broken collarbone.

Hubert Strolz of Austria finished in 1:35.37 minutes, two hundredths of a second in front of Japan's Tetsuya Okabe. Okabe clocked the fastest time of 48.86 seconds in the second leg.

Zurbriggen, who skied a careful race on the deceptive tricky "bear" run, was placed sixth, 2.31 seconds behind Bittner.

"I wasn't going for a win today, I was going for the overall title," Zurbriggen said.

He was assured of that title when Ole-Christen Furuseth of Norway missed a gate and was eliminated in the first heat.

Zurbriggen's placing yesterday boosted his points total to 312, 92 ahead of Furuseth, his nearest rival. The Norwegian, who specializes in the technical disciplines, confirmed he would not start in the two downhill races in Sweden at the end of March. Even if he gained the maximum 75 points from the other three remaining races, he would be unable to snatch victory from Zurbriggen.

Zurbriggen, an all-rounder who won the World Championships in 1984, 1987 and 1988, will thus share a place in skiing history with retired Italian supreme Gustavo Thoeni.

Thoeni captured his fourth and final title in 1976. "When I entered my first World Cup season in 1981, Thoeni was already a legend. I never thought I would meet the legend at the top," said an elated Zurbriggen.

## Lemond returns to competition in Paris



Lemond: finished 16th in time trial

PATID, March 5. (AP): Greg Lemond's return to cycling competition in Paris yesterday wasn't as successful as his last race in the French capital. But this time, it didn't count as much.

Last July, the American cyclist capped an incredible comeback story by winning the final time trial to win his second Tour de France, edging France's Laurent Fignon by eight seconds overall.

In yesterday's first stage of the Paris-Nice race, the opening major race of the cycling season, Fignon outdistanced Lemond, although the temporary lead went to second-year pro, Francis Moreau.

"I am a little behind in training. It has been a mild winter in Europe and all the riders over here are really in excellent shape," Lemond said.

Fignon, also a two-time Tour de France winner, has made the Paris-Nice race one of his first objectives this season. The 1,110-kilometre (690-mile) event lasts a week and finishes with another time trial on a mountain outside Nice.

"It was a significant time trial," Fignon said. "All the best are up front. I think the final winner of Paris-Nice is in the top ten."

Lemond placed 16th in the time trial. After an off season enjoying the fruits of his Tour de France and world championship year in 1989, he is just looking for some training races with the major objective — the Tour de France — still about four months down the road.

Lemond ended up 17 seconds behind Fignon over the seven-kilometre (4.2-mile) course over the streets of eastern Paris. Moreau, a short-course specialist, won in 9 minutes, 15.09 seconds.

Defending champion Miguel Indurain of Spain was second in 9:18.91. Fignon was third, 9:25.69, just ahead of another Tour de France winner, Stephen Roche of Ireland, 9:29.07.

Lemond's time was 9:42.78. Last July, when it counted, Lemond beat Fignon by 38 seconds in the final day's 24-kilometre (15-mile) time trial

ending on the Champs Elysees.

But Lemond spent the winter receiving awards and admitted he neglected his training. As a result, he came back to Europe in January short on form and a little overweight.

"I am still about seven or eight pounds over my Tour de France weight," Lemond said. "But I go pretty well on the flats. It's just when I get to the mountains that it gets difficult now."

In his four races in February, Lemond dropped out of two and finished far behind in the other two.

"I have always been known to start slow and finish strong. By June and July I will be in good shape again," he said.

The Paris-Nice race ends next Sunday. After that Lemond plans to enter the Milan-San Remo event, the first of the World Cup races.

Then he returns to the United States for a while. "I guess my first race I am pointing for is the Tour de Trump," Lemond said of the American race that starts on May 3.



Fayyaz scores only goal

# Bahrain stun UAE



The UAE goalkeeper jumps high for the ball. (Photos by Ahmed Burini)

WORLD CUP finalists United Arab Emirates missed all their scoring chances and allowed Bahrain to score from a penalty today, eliminating themselves from contention for the Gulf Cup.

Bahrain's 1-0 victory (halftime 0-0) their first in the tournament and achieved against the run of play, left the UAE with three points from four games and one match to play against hosts Kuwait on Friday.

The goal that sealed UAE's fate came when skipper and key defender Mubarak Ghanem's crude tackle inside the box earned Bahrain a penalty in the 51st minute. Defender Fayyaz Mahmood coolly slotted it home.

Fayyaz in the first half denied UAE a certain goal when he made a goal-line clearance after a shot from Zuhair Bhakeet had beaten goalkeeper Hamood Sultan.

With Abdulrahman Mohammed and Nasser Khamis dominating the midfield UAE should have gone ahead in the last minute of the first half.

A break from the right side gave Bhakeet a clear shot at an unguarded goal. He balanced the ball over the bar.

UAE dictated play again in the second half, keeping the Bahrain goal under siege. But Adnan Talyani, Zuhair Bhakeet and Ali Thani all fired blanks.

The nearest UAE came to snatching the equaliser came in the 61st minute. Zuhair Bhakeet, for whom nothing went right, beat Hamood Sultan but the ball hit the underside of the bar and was kicked to safety by that man Fayyaz Mahmood.

In injury time Ali Thani had the Bahrain goal at his mercy but shot wide.

The withdrawal of Iraq, who flew back to Baghdad yesterday from the tournament has further complicated the standings of the teams. According to the tournament rules, all the results of the withdrawing team are cancelled and not counted. This means that Kuwait and UAE have lost one point each obtained from their draws against Iraq. However, the championship races not yet over and is rather become more complicated.

Two matches remain in the tournament, the first on Wednesday between Kuwait and Qatar and the second between Kuwait and UAE. Bahrain and Oman are out of the race. The race is thus limited between Qatar and Kuwait. Qatar, with 4 points, need to beat Kuwait to make sure of winning the title, while Kuwait must either beat Qatar or draw with Qatar and then beat UAE to win the title. Kuwait have 3 points.

The new standings of the teams after Iraq's withdrawal:

teams after Iraq's withdrawal:							
(Tahulated under matches							
played, won, drawn, lost, goals							
for, against, points):							
Qatar	3	1	2	0	4	2	4
Bahrain	4	1	2	1	1	1	4
Kuwait	2	1	1	0	2	1	3
Oman	4	0	3	1	4	6	3
UAE	3	0	2	1	1	2	2

■ Iraq withdrew from the tournament after one of their players was sent off when they played against UAE earlier this week. The organisers of the tournament tried to convince the Iraqis to stay but failed in all their efforts.



An action shot of the match.

## Arab buys Sheffield U.

LONDON, March 5. (Reuters) An Iraqi-born businessman today took a controlling interest of English Second Division soccer club Sheffield United in a deal believed to be worth £5 million (\$8 million).

Sam Ashimi, a London-based 32-year-old property developer, has contracted to buy club chairman Reg Brealey's 63 per cent majority shareholding.

Brealey, who will initially continue as chairman, said: "We discussed the sale of the majority shareholding with many interested parties, but only Ashimi showed a really passionate interest in the game and the future of United."

The northern England club, currently second in the Second Division, were £2.3 million (\$3.6 million) in debt last season.

Ashimi plans to sell live satellite broadcasts and video recordings of the club's games to the Middle East, where he said there was a huge market for British soccer.

"I want Sheffield United to become one of the great clubs of British and European soccer," he said.

## Foerster may join new club

MARSEILLE, France, March 5. (Reuters) West German stopper Karlheinz Foerster, impatient with Marseille's failure to extend his current contract, said yesterday he was on the brink of joining another major French team.

"Negotiations are very advanced," he said. "All it needs is my signature on the dotted line."

Foerster, 31, who joined Marseille after the 1986 World Cup finals, would not name the club but said he had been offered a two-year contract.

But he said he liked Marseille and would stay if the club kept its verbal promise to extend his contract, which ends this June, by a further year.

Foerster, a key figure in last year's double-winning team but absent for most of this season with injury, said he had been ignored by president Bernard Tapie and club officials since he broke a foot-bone earlier this year.

"I haven't been able to make contact with them," he said. "I can't wait for ever."

## Iraqi team leaves defying conciliation attempts

(Continued from Page 1)

tee to reverse the red card ruling as that would have entailed a confession by the referee that he was wrong, ending his career. All referees in the competition are sanctioned by the International Football Association, FIFA.

Conciliation efforts ended with the overnight orders from Iraq to bring the team home.

The Iraqi team received a hero's welcome on their return to Baghdad. Thousands of Iraqis danced and sang at the airport VIP lounge to welcome the team.

Baghdad newspapers quoted an unidentified Iraqi Football Federation spokesman yesterday as saying Qudusi agreed with the son of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, who runs the kingdom's soccer federation, on the need for a new tournament.

The Iraqi team was seen off in Kuwait by Sheikh Fahd.

"No matter what happened at the tournament, Iraq will remain respected by our people, leadership and government," he told the departing Iraqis. "Differences can occur among brothers, but this must not affect the love that binds our two nations."

Hesham Ajaj told the Kuwaiti official that his country's protest was basically directed against the refereeing.

Sheikh Fahd described the Iraqi federation's statement as "insulting to us," and said he never hoped to see matters taking that course in such a way that led to the Iraqi team's withdrawal.

He said the organising committee has provided means of satisfaction and comfort to all participant teams, stressing that the committee was ready to shoulder the responsibility for shortcomings, if any.

Sheikh Fahd expressed gratitude for the Iraqi team's participation in the tournament and said he hoped the team would have completed its scheduled matches "out of the fraternity and love the Kuwaiti people had for the Iraqi people and their leader Saddam Hussein."

Ajaj thanked Sheikh Fahd and the organising committee for the good preparation of the tournament and the facilities provided to the Iraqi team during its participation.

The technical committee of the tournament today rejected a protest by the Iraqi delegation on the dismissal of an Iraqi player and the booking of another during the Iraq-UAE match.

The committee affirmed that the referee's decisions during the match were justified, particularly the incident in which the Iraqi player was sent off.

## Dope tests

ROME, March 5. (Reuters) Italian organisers of this summer's World Cup soccer finals pledged today that doping tests would be carried out at all matches.

## Track cleared

PARIS, March 5. (Reuters) The Interlagos track at Sao Paulo was cleared to stage the Brazilian Formula One Grand Prix scheduled for March 25 by the International Motor Sports Federation (FISA) today.

## Romario out for 3 months

AMSTERDAM, March 5. (Reuters) Brazilian striker Romario will be out of soccer for three months after breaking his leg during his Dutch team PSV Eindhoven's 9-2 victory against FC Den Haag yesterday, his club said.

The injury, a fracture of the right leg just above the ankle, has thrown Romario's hopes of a place in Brazil's World Cup side into doubt. The competition in Italy starts on June 8.

Romario was hurt in a sliding tackle by Den Haag's Marco Gentile in the 67th minute of the match.

The Dutch First Division's top scorer with 23 goals this season, Romario will miss PSV's date with Bayern Munich next Wednesday in the first leg of the European Cup quarterfinals.

PSV at first said Romario was unlikely to be out of action for more than six weeks. But after the player had been examined at a local hospital, a club spokesman said he would be sidelined for 12 weeks.

Romario had scored twice before the incident in yesterday's match and Juul Ellerman and Wim Kieft also hit two goals apiece.

Kieft also scored twice when PSV thrashed Sparta Rotterdam 9-1 last September.

Yesterday's other PSV goals belonged to Czech libero Jozef Chovanec, Flemming Povlsen — who came on as a substitute for Romario — and his fellow-Dane Ivan Nielsen.

Ajax Amsterdam continued to dog PSV in the race for the title with a 3-0 away win over eighth-placed RKC Waalwijk. Ajax remained a point behind PSV with a game in hand.

■ In Lisbon, Sporting's hopes of their first Portuguese Soccer League title in eight years virtually vanished yesterday after a

3-2 defeat at leaders Porto.

Two penalty goals by Belgian international Stefan Demol helped the northern side to retain top place with 39 points, three ahead of Benfica.

Demol opened the scoring in the 13th minute and soon afterwards Brazilian Claudio Bracco hit the second goal with a free kick from more than 20 metres.

Early in the second half, Demol scored his 10th penalty of the season.

Sporting put up a fight in the game's final moments with goals by Brazilians Marlon Branco and Lusinho but the defeat left them eight points behind Porto in the League.

Champions Benfica, who are gearing up for their European Cup quarterfinal first leg against the Soviet Union's Dnepropetrovsk this week, were heartened by their 4-0 win at Penafiel.

Angolan Vata Garcia scored after only four minutes and Swede Mats Magnusson notched his 24th goal of the season before the interval.

In the second half, Brazilian Valdo and Cesar Brito sealed victory with two more goals.

Guimaraes beat lowly Feirense 4-0 at home to maintain third place in the table with 34 points.

● Real Madrid snatched two late goals to beat Sevilla 2-1 away on Saturday and increase their lead at the top of the Spanish First Division to nine points.

Second placed Atletico Madrid were held to a 1-1 draw on Sunday by visiting Real Oviedo.

It was Atletico's first game since the departure of coach Javier Clemente and victory should have gone to the visitors who missed four good chances.

Manolo Sanchez put Atletico ahead after 11 minutes but



Romario

Oviedo's Javier Julia equalised two minutes from halftime.

Real fell behind in Seville to a 35th minute goal by Uruguayan midfielder Pablo Bengoechea.

But they struck back five minutes from the end when Paco Lorente scooped the ball back from the line for Emilio Butragueno to make it 1-1.

With two minutes left, Hugo Sanchez clinched Real's win with his 29th goal this season.

## Rams reach final despite defeat

CASTROL Cricket Club overcame Rams by eight runs in a Rudi Mohammed Murad Cricket Tournament match at the Salmiya Cricket Club ground on Friday.

In the other matches of the same tournament played on the same day, Bombay Youth beat Rajasthan by five wickets and Rams avenged their morning defeat when they thrashed Salmiya by 106 runs in the afternoon to reach the final.

In the first match, Castrol decided to bat after winning the toss and put on 191 in 25 overs for the loss of five wickets. John was the top scorer with 66 while Norbert hit 50 and David 22.

In reply Rams tried hard to reach the target but fell short by only five runs. Roy Verghese was



Phillipps: four wickets

unlucky to miss his century when he was out for 91. Francis hit 27, John Dais 17, and Rudy 16. Phillip was the most successful Castrol bowler with four wickets for 38 runs.

In the second match, Bombay



Nareish: 55 runs

put Rajasthan in to bat and had six of their batsmen back to the pavilion for 135 before the 25 allotted overs ran out. Jabbar was the top scorer with 38 while Arif hit 23 and Javed 21.

Bombay Youth faced no dif-

ficulty in get the required runs and went past the target in 23 overs with Nareish hitting two sixes and seven fours in his 55. Yaqouh chipped in with 35.

In the afternoon, Salmiya ran into a very determined Rams side, who were bent on atoning for their defeat to Castrol in the morning.

Rams won the toss and opted to bat, scoring 198 in their 25 overs. Roy Verghese was again unlucky to miss his century when he was out for 98.

Salmiya were never comfortable against the Rams bowling and were all out for only 92. After their victory in this game, Rams qualified for the final despite their morning defeat.

On Friday Salmiya take on Bombay Youth.

## Jin clinches Hadi Trophy

Y.Y. JIN, the Korean, came to golf in Kuwait for the Hadi Hospital Golf Trophy at the Hunting and Equestrian Club on Friday.

This important annual event which counts toward the club championship attracted forty-eight golfers who braved gale strength winds to compete for this coveted trophy which is presented by club president Dr. Ahmad Al Motawi.

It was a day where high handicappers excelled despite the windy conditions. Y.Y. Jin (26) carded 65 to edge into second place K.K. Lee (25) who was in with 65. Third place went to B. Daniel (27) who carded 67.

Low handicapper Adnan Assaf (4) carded 72 while P.S. Lim (27) also scored 72 and were the nearest challengers to the winners. Restaurantier J.K. Chang won the longest drive for men contest on the par-4 seventh green while for the ladies housewife Desiree Bero was winner on the same hole.

Other winners were K.N. Chung who took nearest to the pin prize on the par-3 second.

## Badesik results

THE Bangladesh Diplomatic Society in Kuwait (Badesik) have today announced the results of the 1990-91 tournament.

- Men's**
- 1st. Quader-e-Gani & Zindan
  - 2nd. Mizmor Rahman & Abdul Jabbar
  - 3rd. Ashraf Paul & Ayman
- Women's**
- 1st. Rafiqul Islam
  - 2nd. Kazi Moinul Alam
  - 3rd. Quader-e-Gani
- Club**
- 1st. Kazi Moinul Alam
  - 2nd. Kazi Moinul Alam
  - 3rd. Quader-e-Gani
- Handicap**
- 1st. Mohammed Abdul Razvi
  - 2nd. Mohammed Zohair
  - 3rd. Shah Mohammed Shamsul Hossain
- Caravan**
- 1st. Quader-e-Gani
  - 2nd. Mohammed Ismailuddin
  - 3rd. Mohammed Shaukat
- Ladies**
- 1st. Mrs. Abida Khalid
  - 2nd. Mrs. Hamida Islam
  - 3rd. Mrs. Farida Shaukat
  - 4th. Mrs. Mahmuda Lakat

The prize giving ceremony will be held at the annual picnic of Badesik on March 23.

All winners' details contact: Kazi Rahman (general secretary, tel. 433025) (res.) for further information.



All the winners with their prizes. (Photos by Munzur Hour)

## Basyouni best

SHERIN BASYOUNI took the Player of the Year award when the Regency Bridge Club held their prize distribution ceremony on Sunday evening.

Prizes were also presented on the same day for winners of the End of Season tournament held on Feb 23. The prizes were presented to all the winners by club director Nahil Akel and Raja Khairallah.

While Basyouni took the top award, Ahmed Haeidi finished just behind him in second place while Nahil Akel was third, Narendra Shah fourth and Mamdouh Sabri fifth.

The results of the End of the Season tournament were as follows:

- N/S**
1. Ahmed Haeidi & Ezzeldin
  2. Nahil Akel & Narendra Shah
  3. Mamdouh Sabri & Mohammed Elbar
  4. Dona Materuy & Adel Basyouni

- E/W**
1. Lollo Murtwaite & Peter Harris
  2. Dr. Sankara Reddy & Ravi Bhatt
  3. K.T. Simon & Jaggi
  4. Sahman Ali & George Mas-soud



Basyouni (left) receives his prize from Nahil.



Khairallah (right) presents a prize to Nahil.

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